

Regional Planning Commission Transmittal Checklist

Hearing Date
8/31/2016
Agenda Item No.
9

Project Number: R2015-01333-(4)
Coastal Development Permit No. 201500061
Case(s): Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit
No. 201500055
Environmental Assessment No. 201500094
Planner: Adrine Arakelian

- ☒ Project Summary
- ☒ Property Location Map
- ☒ Staff Analysis
- ☐ Draft Resolution / Draft Ordinance / 8.5x11 Map (ZC or PA)
- ☒ Draft Findings
- ☒ Draft Conditions + Other department letters of recommended conditions
- ☐ Previous CUP Conditions of Approval
- ☒ Burden of Proof Statement(s)
- ☒ Environmental Documentation (ND / MND / EIR)
- ☐ Correspondence
- ☒ Photographs
- ☐ Aerial Image(s)
- ☒ Land Use/Zoning Map
- ☐ Tentative Tract / Parcel Map
- ☒ Site Plan / Floor Plans / Elevations
- ☒ Exhibit Map
- ☐ Landscaping Plans
- ☐ Findings and conditions of Previous permit

Reviewed By: 



Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

PROJECT NUMBER

R2015-01333-(4)

HEARING DATE

August 31, 2016

REQUESTED ENTITLEMENTS

Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit
No. 2015000555
Coastal Development Permit No. 201500061
Environmental Assessment No. 201500094

PROJECT SUMMARY

OWNER / APPLICANT

Catalina Island Conservancy

MAP/EXHIBIT DATE

5/26/16

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The request is for a trails enhancement project that proposes to alter 26.7 miles of existing social/game trails and minimally used dirt roads to create publicly accessible trails, linking to the existing island-wide trail system. The project incorporates portions of 36 parcels across the island. The project will also install wayfinding signage and eight waterless restrooms at high-use trailheads and campgrounds. The trails would conform to trail standards as recommended by the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*. Additionally, three staging areas have been identified in developed areas at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch for storage of vehicles and construction materials for use during construction operations.

LOCATION

Catalina Island, hiking trails

ACCESS

Accessible via foot

ASSESSORS PARCEL NUMBER(S)

7480039001, 7480039005, 7480039008, 7480039011,
7480039012, 7480039014, 7480039016, 7480040003,
7480040004, 7480040008, 7480040010, 7480040012,
7480040015, 7480040029, 7480041001, 7480041012,
7480041040, 7480042010, 7480042011, 7480042013,
7480042014, 7480042023, 7480042056, 7480042058,
7480043013, 7480043014, 7480043016, 7480043017,
7480043018, 7480043019, 7480043020, 7480043021,
7480043025, 7480044001, 7480044002

SITE AREA

27.41 acres

GENERAL PLAN / LOCAL PLAN

Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan

ZONED DISTRICT

Santa Catalina Island

LAND USE DESIGNATION

Open Space/Structured Recreation &
Conservation/Primitive Recreation

ZONE

Open Space/Conservation (OS/C)

PROPOSED UNITS

N/A

MAX DENSITY/UNITS

N/A

COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT

Santa Catalina Island Specific Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION (CEQA)

Mitigated Negative Declaration

KEY ISSUES

- Consistency with the Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan
- Satisfaction of the following Sections of Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code:
 - 22.56.040 (Conditional Use Permit Burden of Proof Requirements)
 - 22.56.215 (Significant Ecological Area Burden of Proof Requirements)
 - 22.56.2320 (Coastal Development Permit)
 - 22.46.160 (Open Space/Conservation Development Standards)

CASE PLANNER:

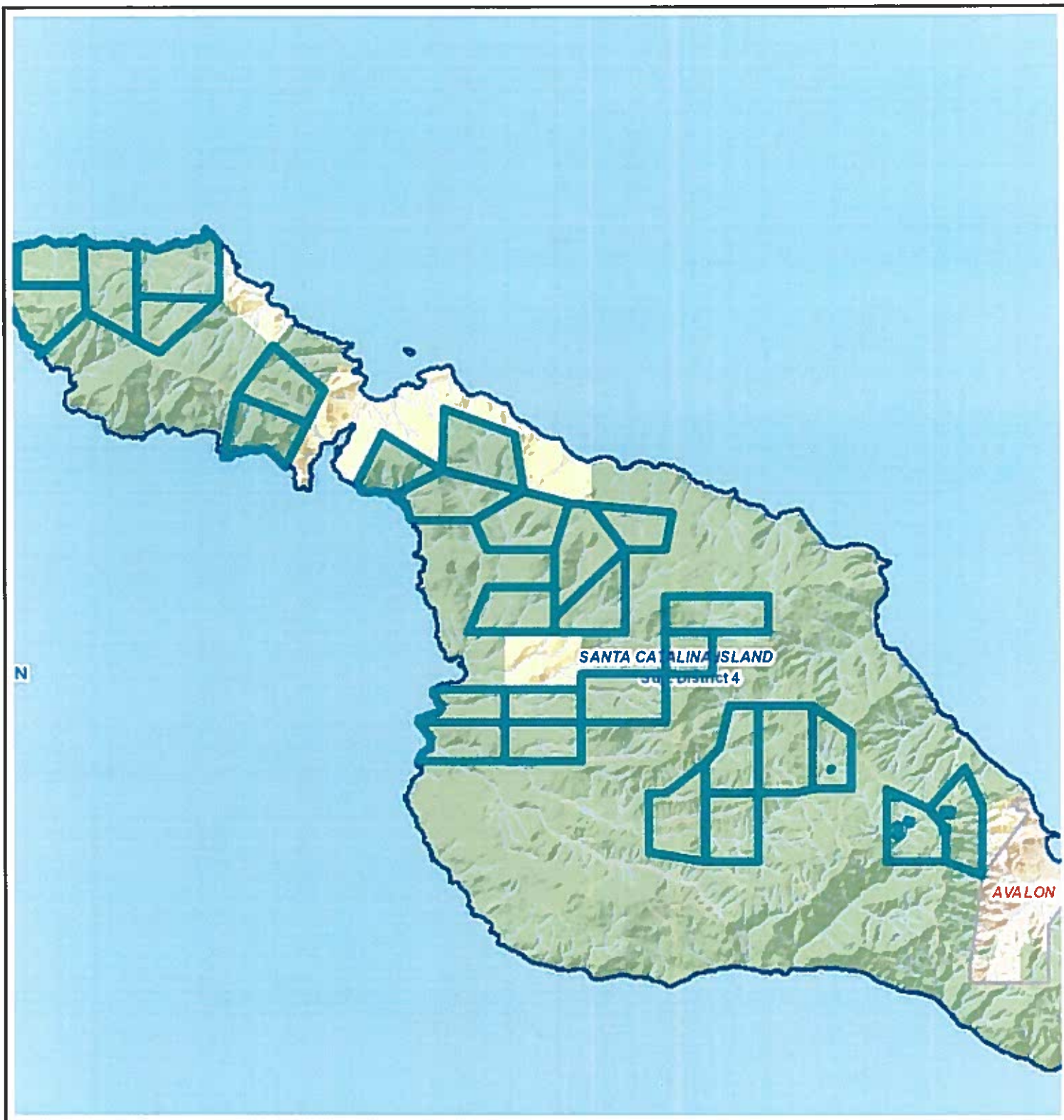
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Property Location Map Catalina Island Trails Project

Printed: Aug 03, 2016



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ENTITLEMENTS REQUESTED

- Coastal Development Permit for alteration of 26.7 miles of existing social/game trails and dirt roads to create publicly accessible trails, installation of wayfinding signage, installation of eight waterless vault restrooms, and location of three construction staging areas in the Open Space/Conservation (OS/C) Zone pursuant to County Code Section 22.46.120 and 22.46.130.
- Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit (SEACUP) for construction of a trails project in the following designated SEA's: Black Point, Arrow Point, Skull Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, Parson's Landing, Upper Isthmus Canyon, Upper Descanso Canyon, Cherry Valley, Silver Peak, Sweetwater Canyon, Johnson's Landing, Little Harbor/Shark Harbor/Indian Head Point, Ben Weston Beach, Cape Canyon, Mount Orizaba, Middle Ranch Canyon, Swain's Canyon, Blackjack Mountain, and Haypress Area in the OS/C Zone pursuant to County Code Section 22.56.215.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant, the Catalina Island Conservancy (CIC), seeks authorization for a project including trails enhancements consisting of alterations to 26.7 miles of existing social/game trails and minimally used dirt roads (in segments ranging from approximately 0.4 to 4.3 miles in length) to create publicly accessible trails that provide improved links to public access points and connectivity between trails and campsites within the framework of the existing 144-mile island-wide trail system. The project incorporates portions of 36 parcels across Catalina Island and integrates improvements into the existing island-wide trail system. The project will also install wayfinding signage to improve trail visibility and direct hikers to follow official trails. Eight waterless vault restrooms (four single-stall and four double-stall) will be installed at high-use trailheads and campgrounds. Additionally, three staging areas for storage of vehicles and construction materials during construction operations are to be located in existing parking areas at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch.

Trails

The proposed project will realign and recontour existing unofficial social/game trails and dirt roads to avoid steep grades, reduce soil erosion, and direct drainage to reduce potential impacts, with work being conducted by small work parties primarily using hand tools. The work will largely be completed by community volunteers and youth employment programs directed by CIC trails and conservation staff. The altered social/game trails will be 2 feet in width. The altered tertiary dirt roads will be 12 feet in width. The trail work is proposed for largely disturbed areas, consisting of existing social/game trails and dirt roads, which will provide an improved visitor experience while limiting impacts of recreational use in the area. The proposed trail work was further reduced and trail routes reselected from those initially proposed to further contain and limit construction work in previously disturbed areas, avoid sensitive habitat areas, and reduce potential impacts through reduced grading and reduced vegetation removal. Additionally, all displaced surface soil will remain on-site, with no soil brought in from other areas of the island. The

trails will be constructed to conform to trails standards as recommended by the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*.

Restrooms

The eight proposed restrooms will be located at high use trailheads and campgrounds in the following locations: Cherry Cove, Parson's Landing Campground, Shark Harbor Campground, Blackjack Campground, Haypress Recreation Area, Ben Weston Trailhead, Lonetree/Divide Road Trail intersection, and West Buffalo Corrals. The restrooms are approximately 120 square feet for the double stall, 60 square feet for the single stall, and approximately 11 feet in height. Due to limited access to water in remote parts of the island, the waterless vault restrooms provide a sustainable option with a regular schedule for their maintenance reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Health.

Wayfinding Signage

Approximately 36 signs will be placed along key trails segments, at trail intersections, campgrounds, and public access points to better direct visitors to access and stay on the designated trails. The signage will consist of wood with painted lettering, approximately three feet in width and one foot in height mounted on 4"x4" wood posts, four feet above ground level. The wooden posts will have poured concrete footings, approximately 1.5 feet below ground level. The signage will be consistent with current trails signage. Please refer to the Overview Trails Map for specific signage locations.

EXISTING ZONING

The subject properties are zoned Open Space/Conservation (OS/C).

Surrounding properties are zoned as follows:

North: C/SF (Organized Camps and Special Facilities); U/I (Utility and Industrial District); OS/C

South: OS/C

East: C/SF; Resort; OS/C;

West: OS/C; Resort

EXISTING LAND USES

The subject properties are developed with trails, campgrounds, and other outdoor recreation associated uses. The properties that the trails run through are largely open space areas managed by the Catalina Island Conservancy and conserved for recreation and biological resources. Additionally, the staging areas are located in developed areas associated with the airport and campgrounds.

Surrounding properties are developed as follows:

North: Open space; industrial operation; educational institute; privately run campgrounds.

South: Open space; horse ranch and vineyard with visitor services; lodge and recreation area.

East: Open space; privately run campground; Twin Harbor's village resort area with

eateries, residences, and recreation.
West: Open space; City of Avalon

PREVIOUS CASES/ZONING HISTORY

The zoning for Catalina Island was established with the adoption of the Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan by the Board of Supervisors and certified by the Coastal Commission in November, 1983. The project includes portions of 36 parcels across the island. Zoning entitlements have been previously approved for development on portions of some of these parcels. Major developments approved primarily include improvements to recreation and resort facilities. Project No. R2012-01795, CDP 20120000, an application by CIC, was approved in 2013 for reconstruction of Eagle Nest Lodge with picnic and recreation areas in Middle Ranch. Project No R2008-00174, CDP 200800003 was approved for a revised master plan for El Rancho Escondido, a horse ranch with vineyards, to include visitor services and alcohol sales in 2010. Project No. R2005-01478, Plot Plan R200500454, an application by CIC, requested improvements to seven campsites with shade structures, picnic benches and associated campground improvements at Little Harbor, approved in 2005. The proposed project includes trails located in proximity to the previously approved developments.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

The Los Angeles County ("County") Department of Regional Planning recommends that a Mitigated Negative Declaration is the appropriate environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County environmental guidelines. The Initial Study concluded that there are certain potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the project that can be reduced to less than significant with the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures. The draft Mitigation Monitoring Program is included as an attachment to this report.

The areas of environmental impact found to be less than significant with project mitigation incorporated include the following:

- Potential biological resource impacts are being mitigated by requiring limits on the timing of project activities to minimize potential impacts on bat, bird, and raptors during breeding season. Pre-construction surveys for biological resources will also be conducted. Additionally, a biologist will monitor ground-disturbing activities in previously undisturbed areas. The limits of the project work areas will be clearly delineated to prevent potential inadvertent impacts to areas adjacent to project work. The project will be conducted in compliance with conditions set forth in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code. Additionally, construction management requirements will be required to avoid impacts to sensitive species such as the Catalina Island Fox. The biologist can stop activity where needed to avoid occurrence of unintentional effects to sensitive species.
- Potential impacts to cultural resources are being mitigated by requiring pre-construction surveys by a qualified archeologist in the Areas of Direct Impact that have not been previously surveyed. All ground-disturbing activities that occur

within 100 feet of a cultural resource or in areas that have potential to uncover cultural resources will be monitored by a qualified archeologist. In the event that resources are encountered during construction activities, all impactful activity shall cease and the archeologist and Native American monitor shall be contacted and recommendations made to protect discovered resources.

- Potential impacts to geological and hydrological resources can be mitigated by documented compliance with the *Los Angeles County Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual* and the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual* to reduce or eliminate soil erosion and construction-related pollutants in runoff.
- Potential impacts to hazards can be mitigated by arranging a pre-construction conference to inform the project contractor(s) and their staff of the high fire hazard conditions that exist in and around the project site and measures that must be implemented to minimize the potential for construction-related fires.

STAFF EVALUATION

General Plan/Community Plan Consistency

The project site is located within the Open Space/Structured Recreation (OS/SR) and Conservation/Primitive Recreation (C/PR) land use categories of the Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan (LCP). The OS/SR designation is intended for hiking, biking, riding trails, backpacking, campgrounds, vault toilets, and other recreation-serving uses that limit potential resource impacts. The C/PR designation is intended for areas of sensitive resources with field research, backpacking, and primitive camping as compatible uses. Of the 36 parcels on which the project is partly located, 8 parcels are entirely in the C/PR land use category, 21 parcels are entirely within the OS/SR category, and 7 parcels are split between the two categories. The project is consistent with the land use designations, as construction of restrooms structures is limited to the OS/SR areas. Improvement of unofficial trails and dirt roads for public access is consistent with both land use designations. The project incorporates land uses and trails that limit and contain resource impacts, while providing public access, as allowed by both land use categories and encouraged by the LCP. Therefore the project is consistent with the permitted uses of the underlying land use categories.

The following policies of the Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan are applicable to the proposed project:

- *Encourage visitor-serving, recreation, education, research and open space uses, including support facilities, in a manner that insures the preservation of the Island's unique lifestyle and environment.*
- *Provide varied and unique recreational opportunities to visitors and residents of Los Angeles County.*
 - *Provide a choice of both structured programmatic activities as well as unstructured self-generated activities.*

- *Provide the opportunity for a high-quality wilderness experience.*
- *Increase opportunities for coastal recreation consistent with protection of natural resources.*
- *Recreational development shall be permitted and encouraged provided that such development is sited and designed to protect views and minimize alterations to topography, native vegetation, and the natural character of the shoreline.*

The project is proposed to provide additional amenities and improved public access for recreation and the experience of open space. The proposed trails provide improved connections, reduce steep grades, improve trail construction and thus reduce soil erosion and other potential user-generated impacts. Additionally, the trails are largely repurposing existing dirt roads and social/game trails for improved public access, while limiting impacts to sensitive resources and limiting potential user-generated impacts through implementation of trails construction BMPs. The project proposes installation of restrooms at campgrounds and high-use trailheads. The restrooms are to be located in the OS/SR designated areas and outside of the C/PR areas, per LCP policy. The trail construction proposes improvements to trail grades, does not impact views, and provides improved access to hiking areas while minimizing alterations to the topography and sensitive native vegetation by altering existing disturbed unofficial trails and dirt roads for improved access and reduced impacts.

Zoning Ordinance and Development Standards Compliance

Pursuant to Section 22.46.160 of the County Code, establishments in the OS/C Zone of the Santa Catalina Island Specific Plan are subject to development standards for campgrounds and employee dwelling units or other associated visitor-serving development. However there are no applicable development standards to trails, restrooms, or wayfinding signage. The project will adhere to trails standards as recommended by the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual* prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Approximately 36 signs will be placed along key trails segments, at trail intersections, campgrounds, and public access points to better direct visitors. The signage will be consistent with those presently installed on trails by the CIC. The waterless vault restrooms proposed are consistent with those in use in Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management recreation areas within and adjacent to Los Angeles County.

Pursuant to Section 22.56.215 of the County Code, development on properties containing designated Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) are required to obtain a conditional use permit to protect the resources contained in the SEA from incompatible development and to ensure that development maintains, and where possible enhances, the biotic resources while allowing for limited controlled development. The applicant submitted the required Biota Report and outlined project compatibility and minimal impacts to biological resources through project design and construction methods. By locating the project primarily on previously disturbed areas, implementing mitigation to minimize impacts to sensitive resources, and by implementing trail construction techniques to reduce soil

erosion and impacts from use of unofficial trails by the public, the project has taken measures to protect sensitive resources.

The project was presented at the May 2, 2016 meeting of the Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee (SEATAC). Additional information regarding the project was requested by SEATAC, such as definitions of current and proposed trail usage, revision of proposed trail maps for increased clarity on the location of game/social trails and dirt roads, revision of hiking permits to include language regarding dog-fox conflicts, to encourage maintaining dogs on-leash, and avoidance of noise pollution, invasive species management plan information, and to work with the Fire Department to reduce the fuel modification requirement. The project was requested to return on consent and was heard at the July 25, 2016 meeting.

At the July 25th meeting of SEATAC, the applicant provided the previously requested information and modifications to the satisfaction of SEATAC. The additional information defined tertiary dirt roads as an existing dirt road, approximately 12 feet in width, closed to the general public for driving, but accessed by CIC staff, tours companies, the Fire Department, and Southern California Edison for maintenance and emergencies, with low traffic volumes (approximately 10 vehicles or less per week). The information defined social/game trails as existing trails created by animals (bison, mule deer, goats) and as single-track social hiking trails created by people. These are well-worn paths, approximately 18 inches in width with pulverized and compacted dirt. The applicant also provided revisions to the hiking permits to include language regarding avoidance of noise pollution and maintaining dogs on-leash, in addition to invasive species information. The requested information was provided to the satisfaction of SEATAC and the project was found consistent with the SEA Compatibility Criteria. SEATAC did comment that further education initiatives for the visiting public in regards to invasive species impacts would be beneficial.

Site Visit

Staff visited the project site with the staff biologist on March 15, 2016 and found that the site was well represented in project documents. Staff was able to view portions of proposed trails, including existing dirt road sections and game/social trails. Staff discussed resource sensitive placement of the trails with the CIC resource specialists and visited potential trail sections that were rejected from inclusion in the project due to potential impacts to sensitive resources.

Burden of Proof

The applicant is required to substantiate all facts identified by Sections 22.56.040, 22.56.215, and 22.56.2320 of the County Code. The Burdens of Proof with applicant's responses is attached. Staff is of the opinion that the applicant has met the burdens of proof.

Neighborhood Impact/Land Use Compatibility

The project is consistent with the land use designations, zoning, and the recreational and environmental focus of development in the area. The eight waterless vault restroom

structures proposed are to be located in campgrounds and high-use trail heads where such an amenity would be beneficial. The trail construction, recontouring, and realignments proposed to improve public access to key sites and to reduce impacts from usage of unofficial trails support the goals of increasing access to recreation while limiting impacts to natural areas. The uses proposed are consistent with the current use of the areas and provide an improved nature experience for visitors, while containing and limiting the impact of recreation on natural resources. The project is in conformance with the Catalina Island LCP. The project will not adversely impact the area, as the proposal is in character with the existing uses and recreation-oriented nature of Catalina Island. The project minimizes impacts to natural resources by locating enhancements primarily on existing disturbed areas, placing restroom facilities and signage in high use areas, and implementing trail design and construction BMPs to further limit impacts.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The departments of Fire, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works were consulted. Departments of Fire and Public Works had no comments. The departments of Parks and Recreation and Public Health provided comments and recommendations.

Public Health Comments

Public Health requested further information regarding the waterless vault restrooms for access, waste disposal, and maintenance which the applicant provided to the satisfaction of Public Health. Additionally, Public Health required that waterless vault toilets only be used at locations where potable water is not available and installation of a septic system is not feasible. As a condition of the approval, they are requesting that the applicant submit a statement from an engineer stating that a septic system or potable water is not feasible at the proposed restroom locations.

Parks and Recreation Comments

The department made recommendations for the design and construction of the trails. The recommendations include that soil not be transported offsite, that all trails be constructed with a minimum 2% to 5% cross-slope, and that standard trails design techniques are used, which have been incorporated into the project. The Department also recommends the use of waterless vault toilets in this area, as a more sustainable option than regular toilets, and further recommends that the 1,000 gallon vault be used. Additionally, it is recommended that hand sanitizer dispensers be installed in each structure. These recommendations have been incorporated as project conditions and mitigation measures as appropriate.

OTHER AGENCY COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The City of Avalon was consulted as part of the CEQA process and provided a letter in support of the project with no comments on the MND.

LEGAL NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 22.60.174 and 22.60.175 of the County Code, the community was appropriately notified of the public hearing by mail, newspaper, property posting, library posting and DRP website posting.

**PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4)
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 201500061
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 201500055**

**STAFF ANALYSIS
PAGE 8 OF 8**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments from the public have been received.

FEES/DEPOSITS

If approved, fees identified in the attached project conditions will apply unless modified by the Regional Planning Commission.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation is made prior to the public hearing and is subject to change based upon testimony and/or documentary evidence presented at the public hearing:

Staff recommends **APPROVAL** of Project Number R2015-01333-(4), Coastal Development Permit No. 201500061 and Conditional Use Permit No. 201500055, subject to the attached conditions.

SUGGESTED APPROVAL MOTION:

CEQA:

I MOVE THAT THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION ALONG WITH THE REQUIRED FINDINGS OF FACT AND ADOPT THE MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE PROJECT PURSUANT TO STATE AND LOCAL CEQA GUIDELINES.

Entitlement:

I MOVE THAT THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NUMBER 201500061 AND SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NUMBER 201500055 SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS.

Prepared by Adrine Arakelian, Regional Planning Assistant II, Zoning Permits West, Section

Reviewed by Mi Kim, Supervising Regional Planner, Zoning Permits West, Section

Attachments:

Draft Findings, Draft Conditions of Approval

Applicant's Burden of Proof statement

Environmental Document

Site Photographs

Site Plan, Land Use Map

MKK:AAA

8/16/16

**DRAFT FINDINGS OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
AND ORDER
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4)
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 201500061
SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 201500055
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 201500094**

1. The Los Angeles County ("County") Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a duly-noticed public hearing on August 31, 2016, in the matter of Project No. R2015-01333-(4), consisting of Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit No. 201500055 ("SEACUP"), and Coastal Development Permit No. 201500061 ("CDP"). (The SEACUP and CDP are referred to collectively as the "Project Permits.")
2. The permittee, Catalina Island Conservancy (CIC) ("permittee"), requests the Project Permits to authorize the enhancement of 26.7 miles of trails and installation of eight waterless vault restrooms and wayfinding signage ("Project") to be incorporated into the existing trails system and recreation areas of the unincorporated community of Santa Catalina Island ("Project Site").
3. The SEACUP is a request to authorize development in Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) pursuant to Los Angeles County Code ("County Code") section 22.56.215.
4. The CDP is a request to authorize construction of trails and installation of waterless vault restrooms and wayfinding signage pursuant to County Code sections 22.46.120 and 22.46.130.
5. The Project Site is 27.41 acres in size and consists of portions of 36 legal lots. The Project Site is irregular in shape, following a generally linear form, with gently to steeply sloping topography and is developed with trails, campgrounds, and other recreation and visitor-serving uses.
6. The Project Site is located in the Catalina Island Zoned District and is currently zoned Open Space/Conservation (OS/C).
7. The Project Site is located within the Open Space/Structured Recreation (OS/SR) and Conservation/Primitive Recreation (C/PR) land use categories of the Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan Land Use Policy Map.
8. Surrounding Zoning within a 500-foot radius includes:

North: C/SF (Organized Camps and Special Facilities); U/I (Utility and Industrial District); OS/C
South: OS/C
East: C/SF; Resort; OS/C;
West: OS/C; Resort
9. Surrounding land uses within a 500-foot radius include:

North: Open space; industrial operation; educational institute; privately run campgrounds.
South: Open space; horse ranch and vineyard with visitor services; lodge and recreation area.
East: Open space; privately run campground; Twin Harbor's village resort area with eateries, residences, and recreation.
West: Open space; City of Avalon

10. The zoning for Catalina Island was established with the adoption of the Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan by the Board of Supervisors and certification by the Coastal Commission in November, 1983. The project includes portions of 36 parcels across the island. Zoning entitlements have been previously approved for development on portions of some of these parcels. Major developments approved in the past decade primarily include improvements to recreation and resort facilities. Major developments approved primarily include improvements to recreation and resort facilities. Project No. R2012-01795, CDP 20120000, an application by CIC, was approved in 2013 for reconstruction of Eagle Nest Lodge with picnic and recreation areas in Middle Ranch. Project No. R2008-00174, CDP 200800003 was approved for a revised master plan for El Rancho Escondido, a horse ranch with vineyards, to include visitor services and alcohol sales in 2010. Project No. R2005-01478, Plot Plan 200500454, an application by CIC, requested improvements to seven campsites with shade structures, picnic benches and associated campground improvements at Little Harbor, approved in 2005. The proposed project includes trails located in proximity to the previously approved developments.
11. The site plan for the Project depicts segments of trail improvements across the island. The improvements do not require grading permits because of the limited scope of the grading. The site plans also depict both single stall and double stall waterless vault restrooms at approximately 120 square feet and 60 square feet in area.
12. The Project Site is not accessible via public roads, as the project consist of hiking trails and associated recreational amenities in a rural area with only pedestrian public access. The trails are publicly accessible from many points of interest across the island and visitors to the island may arrive by ferry or boat.
13. On May 2, 2016 the project was presented for public comment at a meeting of the Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee (SEATAC), prior to the Commission's public hearing on the Project. The project was asked to return to SEATAC as a consent item and to provide additional information to the staff biologist. The permittee was requested to provide revisions to the Biota Report submitted for their review to include revised map clearly delineating trail segments to be constructed from dirt roads and those to be constructed from game/social trails. Additionally, SEATAC requested further definitions of terms used in the report, regarding social trails and tertiary dirt roads. SEATAC requested revisions to the hiking permits issued to incorporate language about sound pollution and the requirement for keeping dogs on-leash while on the island. The applicant was requested to work with the Fire

Department to modify fuel modification requirements around restrooms. The applicant submitted the relevant information to SEATAC and the Fire Department modified fuel modification requirements. On July 25, 2016 the staff biologist presented the requested information submitted by the applicant for SEATAC's review. SEATAC commented that additional education initiatives for public visitors to the island regarding the spreading of invasive species would be beneficial. Ultimately, SEATAC found the project consistent with the SEA Compatibility Criteria.

14. The departments of Fire, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works were consulted. The departments of Parks and Recreation and Public Health provided comments and recommendations. Public Health requested further information about the waterless vault restrooms in regards to access, waste disposal, and maintenance which the applicant provided to the satisfaction of the Public Health. Additionally, Public Health required that vault toilets only be used at locations where potable water is not available and installation of a septic system is not feasible. As a condition of the approval, they are requesting that the applicant submit a statement from an engineer stating that a septic system or potable water are not feasible at the proposed restroom locations. Parks and Recreation provided trail construction recommendations in line with standard trail design techniques regarding slopes, cross-slopes, and that soil not be transported off-site. The project has incorporated the recommendations and will construct the trails in accordance with the recommendations in the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*. Parks and Recreation also recommends the use of waterless vault toilets in this area, as a more sustainable option than regular toilets, and that 1,000 gallon vaults be used and additionally, that hand sanitizer dispensers be installed in each restroom structure.
15. Prior to the Commission's public hearing on the Project, an Initial Study was prepared for the Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq.) ("CEQA"), The State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines for the County. Based on the Initial Study, Regional Planning staff determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration ("MND") is the appropriate environmental document for the Project. The mitigation measures necessary to ensure the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment are contained in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP") prepared for the Project.
16. Pursuant to the provisions of sections 22.60.174 and 22.60.175 of the Zoning Code, the community was appropriately notified of the Project's public hearings by mail, newspaper, and property posting.
17. No correspondence has been received from the public.
18. Reserved. Hearing Proceedings.
19. The Commission finds that the Project is consistent with the Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan land use designations of OS/SR and C/PR. The project incorporates land uses and trails that limit and contain resource impacts, while

providing improved public access, as allowed and encouraged by both land use categories and in the LCP. The uses proposed are consistent with the intended uses of the land use categories for low-impact recreation and wilderness experiences through development of trails, campgrounds, and recreation-serving uses that limit potential impacts to sensitive resources.

20. The Commission finds that the Project is consistent with the OS/C zoning designation for the parcels. The subject properties are zoned for recreational uses and allow trails, signage, and construction of restroom facilities as principally permitted and accessory uses in the zone.
21. The Commission finds that the requested development is designed to be highly compatible with the biotic resources present, including the setting aside of appropriate and sufficient undisturbed areas. The Project has been designed to largely limit development to previously disturbed areas and to realign and recontour trails to reduce soil erosion and prevent further impacts to resource areas due to public usage of unofficial trails. Additionally, improved wayfinding signage will encourage hiking on designated trails and limit impacts to sensitive, undisturbed areas.
22. The Commission finds that the requested development is designed to maintain water bodies, watercourses, and their tributaries in a natural state. The Project as designed will not significantly impact or alter water bodies, watercourse, or their tributaries. The Project is limited to trail enhancements to existing, disturbed unofficial social/game trails and tertiary dirt roads. The restrooms will also be located in campground areas or high-use trailheads. Additionally, the trails will be constructed to limit soil erosion and properly direct runoff.
23. The Commission finds that the requested development is designed so that wildlife movement corridors (migratory paths) are left undisturbed and in a natural state. The Project is limited to trail and visitor-use enhancements in previously disturbed areas and areas of high visitor usage. Additionally, mitigation measures are proposed to limit impacts to species through limits on development during breeding seasons and the requirement of pre-construction surveys to locate sensitive biological resources in the vicinity of construction and conduct the project in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code.
24. The Commission finds that the requested development retains sufficient natural vegetation cover and/or open spaces to buffer critical resource areas from said requested development. The Project proposes trails, approximately 2-12 feet in width depending on the existing width of the unofficial trail and dirt road. The Project has proposed enhancing the existing disturbed, unofficial trails and dirt roads to limit removal of vegetation and to maintain buffers to critical resource areas, while providing improved public access to coastal resources.
25. The Commission finds that where necessary fences or walls are provided to buffer important habitat areas from development. The project has been design as a linear trail system enhancement, as such fences or walls are not proposed as they are not

necessary for the current proposal. However, as a mitigation measure during the construction period, the limits of project work areas will be clearly marked and delineated to prevent potential inadvertent impacts to areas adjacent to project work.

26. The Commission finds that roads and utilities serving the proposed development are located and designed so as not to conflict with critical resources, habitat areas, or migratory paths. The Project is not proposing alterations to roads or utilities, as the Project areas will be accessed by pedestrians via hiking trails. As such, the Project components proposed will not conflict with critical resources, habitat areas, or migratory paths. The maintenance for the proposed restrooms will use existing access roads, and the restrooms are proposed for existing campgrounds or high-use trailheads with existing vehicular and pedestrian access. The existing infrastructure will serve the Project. Enhancements proposed for existing social/game trails and tertiary dirt roads will not impact the use of existing primary and secondary use roads for access to rural areas of Catalina Island.
27. The Commission finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program. The Project conforms to the zoning and land use categories as defined in the LCP. The Project proposes enhancements to recreational use of the areas on the island, while limiting impacts to biological resources through alteration of existing disturbed areas and locating amenities in existing high usage visitor areas. As such, the Project conforms to the goals and requirements of the local coastal program to provide and encourage public access while protecting natural resources.
28. The Commission finds that any development, located between the nearest public road and the sea or shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone, is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code. Catalina Island has few access roads, mostly limited to use by residents of the island, staff of the Catalina Island Conservancy, and transportation for visitor-serving uses. As such, the Project does not locate development between a public road and the sea. However, the Project's goal is to enhance public access and recreation on Catalina Island, improving access to coastal resources while conserving biological resources.
29. The proposed use at the site will not adversely affect the health, peace, comfort or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area, will not be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site, and will not jeopardize, endanger or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare. The Project proposes enhancements to an existing 144-mile island-wide trail system. The proposed enhancements will improve signage, improve connectivity to key visitor-use sites, and realign and recontour trails to reduce soil erosion and direct drainage. The Project areas are largely surrounded by property owned by the Catalina Island Conservancy and used for recreational purposes and open space conservation. The Project is consistent with the existing use of the area for hiking, recreation, camping, and other visitor-serving uses. As such, the Project proposes enhancements to the existing use

of the area. Additionally, the project construction will take place mostly with the use of hand tools and will adhere to best management practices for construction, as such noise and disturbance during construction activity will be limited. As such, the Project is consistent with the existing uses in the area and does not propose to negatively impact properties in the vicinity, but rather enhance public access to coastal resources.

30. The Commission finds that the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area. The Project is consistent with the surrounding and existing land uses in the area, and is consistent with the requirements of Title 22. The Project satisfies the development requirements for the uses proposed.
31. That the proposed site is adequately served by highways or streets of sufficient width, and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle traffic such use would generate and by other public or private service facilities as are required. The Project proposes trail enhancements to adequately serve the needs of hikers, bicyclers, and horse-mounted trail users. The sites are not accessible to the public by vehicle, and as such are improved to adequately serve the anticipated users.
32. The Commission finds that pursuant to sections 22.60.174 and 22.60.175 of the County Code, the community was properly notified of the public hearing by mail, newspaper, and property posting. Additionally, the Project was noticed and case materials were available on Regional Planning's website and at libraries located in the vicinity of Santa Catalina Island community. On July 19, 2016, a total of 11 Notices of Public Hearing were mailed to all property owners as identified on the County Assessor's record within a 500-foot radius from the Project Site, as well as 4 notices to those on the courtesy mailing list for the Santa Catalina Island Zoned District and to any additional interested parties.
33. The Commission finds that the permittee is subject to payment of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife fees related to the Project's effect on wildlife resources pursuant to section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
34. The Commission finds that the MMRP, prepared in conjunction with the MND, identifies in detail how compliance with its measures will mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment from the Project. The Commission further finds that the MMRP's requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this Project, and that approval of this Project is conditioned on the permittee's compliance with the attached conditions of approval and MMRP.
35. After consideration of the MND and MMRP, together with the comments received during the public review process, the Commission finds on the basis of the whole record before it that there is no substantial evidence that the Project as conditioned

will have a significant effect on the environment, and further finds that the MND and MMRP reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Commission.

36. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission decision is based in this matter is at the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, 13th Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Zoning Permits West Section, Department of Regional Planning.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CONCLUDES THAT:

Regarding the Conditional Use Permit:

- A. The proposed use with the attached conditions will be consistent with the adopted General Plan.
- B. The proposed use at the site will not adversely affect the health, peace, comfort or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area, will not be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site, and will not jeopardize, endanger or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare.
- C. The proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area.
- D. The proposed site is adequately served by highways or streets of sufficient width and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate, and by other public or private service facilities as are required.

Regarding the Coastal Development Permit:

- A. The Commission finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program; and where applicable,
- B. The Commission finds that any development, located between the nearest public road and the sea or shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone, is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code.

Regarding the Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit:

- A. The requested development is designed to be highly compatible with the biotic resources present, including the setting aside of appropriate and sufficient undisturbed areas.
- B. The requested development is designed to maintain water bodies, watercourses, and their tributaries in a natural state.
- C. The requested development is designed so that wildlife movement corridors (migratory paths) are left undisturbed and in a natural state.
- D. The requested development retains sufficient natural vegetation cover and/or open spaces to buffer critical resource areas from said requested development.
- E. Where necessary fences or walls are provided to buffer important habitat areas from development.
- F. Roads and utilities serving the proposed development are located and designed so as not to conflict with critical resources, habitat areas, or migratory paths.

THEREFORE, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Certifies that the MND for the Project was completed in compliance with CEQA and the State and County CEQA Guidelines related thereto; certifies that it independently reviewed and considered the MND and that the MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of Commission as to the environmental consequences of the Project; certifies that it considered the MMRP, finding that it is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during Project implementation; determined that on the basis of the whole record before the Commission that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment; adopts the MND and finds that the MMRP is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during Project implementation; and
2. Approves Coastal Development Permit Number 201500061 and Significant Ecological Area Conditional Use Permit 201500055, subject to the attached conditions.

ACTION DATE: August 31, 2016

MKK:AAA

7/26/2016

c: Each Commissioner, Zoning Enforcement, Building and Safety

**DRAFT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4)
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 201500061
SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 201500055
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 201500094**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is a request for alteration of 26.7 miles of existing social/game trails and dirt roads to create publicly accessible trails, installation of wayfinding signage, installation of eight waterless vault restrooms at high-use trailheads and campgrounds, and three construction staging areas located in existing parking areas at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch in the Open Space/Conservation (OS/C) Zone, subject to the following conditions of approval:

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "permittee" shall include the applicant, owner of the property, and any other person, corporation, or other entity making use of this grant.
2. This grant shall not be effective for any purpose until the permittee, and the owner of the subject property if other than the permittee, have filed at the office of the Los Angeles County ("County") Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning") their affidavit stating that they are aware of and agree to accept all of the conditions of this grant, and that the conditions of the grant have been recorded as required by Condition No. 7, and until all required monies have been paid pursuant to Condition Nos. 9, 10, and 13. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Condition No. 2 and Condition Nos. 4, 5, 8, and 10 shall be effective immediately upon the date of final approval of this grant by the County.
3. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "date of final approval" shall mean the date the County's action becomes effective pursuant to Section 22.60.260 of the County Code.
4. The permittee shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers, or employees to attack, set aside, void, or annul this permit approval, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code Section 65009 or any other applicable limitations period. The County shall promptly notify the permittee of any claim, action, or proceeding and the County shall reasonably cooperate in the defense. If the County fails to promptly notify the permittee of any claim, action, or proceeding, or if the County fails to cooperate reasonably in the defense, the permittee shall not thereafter be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the County.
5. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the permittee shall within ten days of the filing make an initial

deposit with Regional Planning in the amount of up to \$5,000.00, from which actual costs and expenses shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the costs or expenses involved in Regional Planning's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance provided to permittee or permittee's counsel.

If during the litigation process, actual costs or expenses incurred reach 80 percent of the amount on deposit, the permittee shall deposit additional funds sufficient to bring the balance up to the amount of \$5,000.00. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation.

At the sole discretion of the permittee, the amount of an initial or any supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein. Additionally, the cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents shall be paid by the permittee according to County Code Section 2.170.010.

6. If any material provision of this grant is held or declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the permit shall be void and the privileges granted hereunder shall lapse.
7. Prior to the use of this grant, the permittee, or the owner of the subject property if other than the permittee, shall **record the terms and conditions** of the grant in the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk ("Recorder"). In addition, upon any transfer or lease of the property during the term of this grant, the permittee, or the owner of the subject property if other than the permittee, shall promptly provide a copy of the grant and its conditions to the transferee or lessee of the subject property.
8. This grant shall expire unless used within two (2) years from the date of final approval of the grant. A single one-year time extension may be requested in writing and with the payment of the applicable fee prior to such expiration date.
9. The subject property shall be maintained and operated in full compliance with the conditions of this grant and any law, statute, ordinance, or other regulation applicable to any development or activity on the subject property. Failure of the permittee to cease any development or activity not in full compliance shall be a violation of these conditions. Inspections shall be made to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant as well as to ensure that any development undertaken on the subject property is in accordance with the approved site plan on file. The permittee shall deposit with the County the sum of **\$600.00**. The deposit shall be placed in a performance fund, which shall be used exclusively to compensate Regional Planning for all expenses incurred while inspecting the premises to determine the permittee's compliance with the conditions of approval. The fund provides for **Three (3) annual** inspections. Inspections shall be unannounced.

If additional inspections are required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant, or if any inspection discloses that the subject property is being used in violation of any one of the conditions of this grant, the permittee shall be financially responsible and shall reimburse Regional Planning for all additional enforcement efforts necessary to bring the subject property into compliance. The amount charged for additional inspections shall be \$200.00 per inspection, or the current recovery cost at the time any additional inspections are required, whichever is greater.

10. Within five (5) working days from the day after your appeal period ends **September 19, 2016**, the permittee shall remit processing fees at the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Office, payable to the County of Los Angeles, in connection with the filing and posting of a Notice of Determination (NOD) for this project and its entitlements in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code. Unless a Certificate of Exemption is issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code, the permittee shall pay the fees in effect at the time of the filing of the NOD, as provided for in Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code, currently **\$2,285.25** (\$2,210.25 for a Mitigated Negative Declaration plus \$75.00 processing fee), No land use project subject to this requirement is final, vested or operative until the fee is paid.
11. The permittee shall comply with all mitigation measures identified in the Mitigation Monitoring Program ("MMP"), which are incorporated by this reference as if set forth fully herein.
12. Within thirty (30) days of the date of final approval of the grant by the County, the permittee shall record a covenant and agreement, which attaches the Mitigation Monitoring Program ("MMP") and agrees to comply with the mitigation measures imposed by the Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project, in the office of the Recorder. Prior to recordation of the covenant, the permittee shall submit a draft copy of the covenant and agreement to Regional Planning for review and approval. As a means of ensuring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, the permittee shall submit annual mitigation monitoring reports to Regional Planning for approval or as required. The reports shall describe the status of the permittee's compliance with the required mitigation measures.
13. The permittee shall deposit an initial sum of \$6,000.00 with Regional Planning within thirty (30) days of the date of final approval of this grant in order to defray the cost of reviewing and verifying the information contained in the reports required by the MMP. The permittee shall replenish the mitigation monitoring account if necessary until all mitigation measures have been implemented and completed.

14. Notice is hereby given that any person violating a provision of this grant is guilty of a misdemeanor. Notice is further given that the Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") or a Hearing Officer may, after conducting a public hearing, revoke or modify this grant, if the Commission or Hearing Officer finds that these conditions have been violated or that this grant has been exercised so as to be detrimental to the public's health or safety or so as to be a nuisance, or as otherwise authorized pursuant to Chapter 22.56, Part 13 of the County Code.
15. All development pursuant to this grant must be kept in full compliance with the County Fire Code to the satisfaction of the County Fire Department.
16. All development pursuant to this grant shall conform with the requirements of the County Department of Public Works to the satisfaction of said department.
17. All development pursuant to this grant shall comply with the requirements of Title 22 of the County Code and of the specific zoning of the subject property, unless specifically modified by this grant, as set forth in these conditions, including the approved Exhibit "A," or a revised Exhibit "A" approved by the Director of Regional Planning ("Director").
18. The permittee shall maintain the subject property in a neat and orderly fashion. The permittee shall maintain free of litter all areas of the premises over which the permittee has control.
19. All structures, walls and fences open to public view shall remain free of graffiti or other extraneous markings, drawings, or signage that was not approved by Regional Planning. These shall include any of the above that do not directly relate to the business being operated on the premises or that do not provide pertinent information about said premises. The only exceptions shall be seasonal decorations or signage provided under the auspices of a civic or non-profit organization.

In the event of graffiti or other extraneous markings occurring, the permittee shall remove or cover said markings, drawings, or signage within 24 hours of such occurrence, weather permitting. Paint utilized in covering such markings shall be of a color that matches, as closely as possible, the color of the adjacent surfaces.

20. The subject property shall be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the plans marked Exhibit "A." If changes to any of the plans marked Exhibit "A" are required as a result of instruction given at the public hearing, **three (3) copies of a modified Exhibit "A"** shall be submitted to Regional Planning by **October 31, 2016**.

21. In the event that subsequent revisions to the approved Exhibit "A" are submitted, the permittee shall submit **three (3) copies** of the proposed plans to the Director for review and approval. All revised plans must substantially conform to the originally approved Exhibit "A". All revised plans must be accompanied by the written authorization of the property owner(s) and applicable fee for such revision.

**PERMIT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS – SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

22. The Project shall incorporate those measures necessary to protect identified resources as outlined in the attached MMRP and meet the burden of proof described in 22.56.215.F.2 for projects in a significant ecological area.

PERMIT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS – COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

23. The applicant shall agree to suspend construction in the vicinity of a cultural resource encountered during development of the site, and leave the resource in place until a qualified archeologist can examine them and determine appropriate mitigation measures. The archeological mitigation or recovery plan shall be approved by the DRP as an amendment to the coastal development permit. The applicant shall agree to comply with mitigation measures recommended by the archeologist and approved by the DRP after public notice and comment.
24. If human remains are discovered, the developer shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission for a list of approved resource people representing the Gabrielino Indians and shall retain someone from this list to monitor excavation activities.

PROJECT SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

25. This grant shall authorize the construction of 26.7-miles of trails enhancements, with alteration of existing social/game trails and dirt roads to create publicly accessible trails linking to the existing island-wide trail system, installation of wayfinding signage, installation of eight waterless vault restrooms at high-use trailheads and campgrounds, and three construction staging areas located in existing developed areas at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch.
26. The permittee shall install 1,000 gallon vault toilets to reduce pumping trips per year.
27. Hand sanitizers shall be installed within each restroom structure.

**PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4)
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
NO. 201500061
SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT
NO. 201500055**

**DRAFT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
PAGE 6 OF 6**

28. The permittee shall comply with trail design and construction techniques as recommended in the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*.
29. The permittee shall comply with all conditions set forth in the attached County Public Health Department letter dated June 20, 2016.
30. The permittee shall comply with all mitigation measures as set forth in the attached MMRP.

Attachments:

Mitigation Monitoring Program (pages 1-10)
Public Health Department letter dated June 20, 2016



CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Acting Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

ANGELO J. BELLOMO, REHS, QEP
Deputy Director for Health Protection

TERRI S. WILLIAMS, REHS
Acting Director of Environmental Health

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June 20, 2016

TO: Adrine Arakelian
Regional Planning Assistant II
Department of Regional Planning

FROM: Michelle Tsiebos, REHS, MPA, DPA
Environmental Health Division
Department of Public Health

M.T.

**SUBJECT: CUP CONSULTATION
PROJECT NO. R2015-01333/ RCUP 201500055/ RCDP 201500061
Catalina Trails Project
Catalina Island**

- ☒ Public Health recommends approval of this CUP and CDP.
☐ Public Health does **NOT** recommend approval of this CUP and CDP.

The Department of Public Health – Environmental Health Division has reviewed the information provided for the project identified above. The CUP/CDP is for the proposed expansion of the trail system in the island with the installation of six waterless (vault) toilets at trailheads throughout the island.

The Department recommends approval of the CUP and related CDP at this time conditioned to the requirements below.

Land Use Program

The Land Use program has reviewed the documentation submitted for the vault toilets. The information required regarding access, waste disposal, and maintenance were submitted by the applicant to complete the review of the project.

The Land Use program will allow the use of vault toilets under the conditions specified by the Catalina Island Conservancy in response to the Program's requests, and further administrative requirements.

The Conservancy Plan is presented below:

Access

All restrooms are located adjacent to existing maintained roads, that the pumper truck currently utilize.

Waste Disposal

All sewage will be disposed of at the Two Harbors Waste Treatment Facility.

Maintenance

Vault Pumping- Twice weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays.
Two Harbors Enterprises, Inc.
Teresa McDowell- 310-510-4211
P.O. Box 5086
Two Harbors, Ca. 90704

Vault Tank Integrity Inspection- Prior to shipment the vault tanks will be tested by: Romtec, Inc.
Travis Olson- 541-496-9541
18240 North Bank Rd. Roseburg
Oregon, 97470

Prior to backfilling, the contractor will fill each of the vault tanks with water and the Conservancy will schedule an inspection with the Health Department.

Cleaning of the Vault Tank- Twice weekly when vault tanks are being pumped by Two Harbors Enterprises, Inc.

Vent Screen Inspection- Twice weekly by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian.
Evan Sutherland, Supervisor- 310-510-2202.

Exterior Vault Cleaning- Minimum twice weekly by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian. Evan Sutherland, Supervisor- 310-510-2202.

Interior Vault Cleaning- Minimum twice weekly by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian. Evan Sutherland, Supervisor- 310-510-2202.

Cleaning of the Toilet Risers- Minimum twice weekly by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian. Evan Sutherland, Supervisor - 310-510-2202.

Toilet Paper Restocking- Daily, by Catalina Conservancy Ranger Department, Lenny Altherr, Supervisor 310-510-2595 x107, or by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian, Evan Sutherland, Supervisor- 310-510-2202.

Hand Sanitizer Restocking- Daily, by Catalina Conservancy Ranger Department, Lenny Altherr, Supervisor - 510-2595 x107, or by Catalina Conservancy Facilities Department Custodian, Evan Sutherland, Supervisor- 310-510-2202.

Lights - Hikers are not allowed to hike after sunset but the units will be equipped with either solar, or Battery operated lights.

NOTE: All restrooms will be inspected at a minimum once per day by Catalina Conservancy Rangers.

Additional Administrative requirements

Vault toilets can be used in Los Angeles County only at locations where potable water is not available, and it is not feasible to install an Onsite Wastewater Treatment System in lieu of a public sewer. Therefore:

- The applicant shall submit a statement by a qualified professional, such as a California Professional Geologist, a California Certified Engineering Geologist, a California Registered Professional Engineer, a California Registered Professional Soil/Geotechnical Engineer, that this project meets these requirements.
- The Land Use program will issue a permit for the use of the vault toilets. Permits are subject to revocation.

Note: Given the design of the toilet seat, a warning sign shall be posted at the vault toilet addressing children safety.

For any questions regarding this report, please contact me at (626) 430-5380 or mtsiebos@ph.lacounty.gov.

#	Environmental Factor	Mitigation	Action Required	When Monitoring to Occur	Responsible Agency or Party	Monitoring Agency or Party
4.1	Biological Resources	<p>A qualified Biologist will monitor construction activities during initial ground disturbance in previously undisturbed native plant communities. The Biologist will have the authority to stop work and will immediately contact the Conservancy and other appropriate agencies if unintentional effects to sensitive species occur. Prior to the start of construction activities, the Biologist shall confirm that the limits of the project work areas will be clearly delineated to prevent inadvertent impacts to adjacent areas.</p> <p>A Biologist will conduct a sensitive resources training session that includes information on potential sensitive resources within the project disturbance area for all project personnel prior to project implementation.</p> <p>All vehicles operated within all project areas will be inspected daily and maintained, if necessary, to avoid leaks of fuel, hydraulic fluids, oil, or coolants.</p> <p>Work areas will be kept clean and carefully controlled of waste products at all work sites to avoid attracting predators, such as foxes, ravens, feral cats, and any other wildlife species.</p> <p>All work will be jointly supervised by the Conservancy's Facilities and Conservation Departments.</p>	Secure qualified biologist.	Prior to the start of and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.2	Biological Resources	<p>Prior to construction activities, focused surveys for special status plant species identified in Table 5 (of the Biota Report/Biological Assessment) will be conducted by a qualified Biologist within the proposed project impact area. The survey will be done during the species' blooming periods in accordance with the most current protocols approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). If the species is present within the impact area of the project, its rarity and abundance will be evaluated by a qualified Biologist. If the finding is considered to be significant, the appropriate mitigation will be implemented.</p>	Conduct pre-construction surveys. Reports of surveys shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to the start of and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

4.3 Biological Resources	The project shall be conducted in compliance with the conditions set forth in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code with methods approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the CDFW to protect active bird/raptor nests. To the maximum extent feasible, vegetation removal shall occur during the non-breeding season for nesting birds (generally late September to early February) and nesting raptors (generally early July to late January) to avoid impacts to nesting birds and raptors. If the nature of the project requires that work would be initiated during the breeding season for nesting birds (February 1 to September 30) and nesting raptors (February 1 to June 30), in order to avoid direct impacts on active nests, a pre-construction survey shall be conducted by a qualified Biologist for nesting birds and/or raptors within 3 days prior to clearing of any vegetation (i.e., within 300 feet for nesting birds and within 500 feet for nesting raptors). If the Biologist does not find any active nests within or immediately adjacent to the impact area, the vegetation clearing/construction work shall be allowed to proceed. If the Biologist finds an active nest within or immediately adjacent to the construction area and determines that the nest may be impacted or breeding activities substantially disrupted, the Biologist shall delineate an appropriate buffer zone around the nest depending on the sensitivity of the species and the nature of the construction activity.	Conduct pre-construction surveys. Reports of surveys shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to the start of and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
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4.3 cont.		Any nest found during survey efforts shall be mapped on the construction plans. The active nest shall be protected until nesting activity has ended. To protect any nest site, the following restrictions to construction activities shall be required until nests are no longer active, as determined by a qualified Biologist: (1) clearing limits shall be established within a buffer around any occupied nest (the buffer shall be 100–300 feet for nesting birds and 300–500 feet for nesting raptors), unless otherwise determined by a qualified Biologist and (2) access and surveying shall be restricted within the buffer of any occupied nest, unless otherwise determined by a qualified Biologist. Encroachment into the buffer area around a known nest shall only be allowed if the Biologist determines that the proposed activity would not disturb the nest occupants. Construction can proceed when the qualified Biologist has determined that fledglings have left the nest or the nest has failed. Due to the linear nature of trails construction, if the Biologist determines that the work crews can "skip" or move beyond a delineated nesting buffer area and continue working farther down the trail and return to finish the skipped segment weeks later (post fledgling), work can continue while avoiding significant impacts.				
4.4	Biological Resources	A pre-construction burrowing owl survey will take place within a month before earth disturbance (construction). The surveys will be conducted by a qualified Biologist as close to the actual construction initiation date as possible. Surveys will be conducted by walking suitable habitat on the project sites in areas within 150 meters (500 feet) (where possible) of the project impact zone. Potential project impacts to owls that are detected utilizing burrows will be avoided by ensuring there is no disturbance within 50 meters (160 feet) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season of September 1 through January 31 or within 75 meters (approximately 250 feet) during the breeding season of February 1 through August 31. No owls will be moved away from the disturbance area and no passive or active relocation of owls will occur. Similarly, no burrows of any kind will be destroyed. All mitigation will include avoidance.	Conduct pre-construction surveys. Reports of surveys shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to the start of construction and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

4.5	Biological Resources	A qualified Biologist shall conduct a pre-construction bat occupancy assessment at the Cherry Cove (Salina) mine adit prior to construction of a waterless restroom facility 425 feet in elevation above the mine. A bat-friendly gate was installed during February 2015, so it is unconfirmed as of January 2016 if bats have begun to utilize this mine. Restroom construction will not take place during the bat maternity roost season (March 1 to August 1) if a maternal colony has been confirmed by a Biologist through non-invasive outflight counts with night-vision goggles and thermal imaging scopes. If no outflights occur over two consecutive nights, an interior survey of the adit will take place during the day to confirm the absence of bats. If no bats are present, the Biologist will approve construction proceeding. The two Cottonwood Prospects are not long enough (approximately 25 feet) to support a maternal colony, however, they do provide roosting habitat for bachelors. Trail crews doing trail realignment using hand tools will be instructed not to leave the construction site to investigate either Prospect when working on the lower portions of the Cottonwood Canyon Trail segment. The Prospects are well hidden by vegetation and steep topography, so would likely go unnoticed. No trees will be removed or limbed as part of the Project, so surveys for tree roosting bats are not necessary.	Conduct pre-construction surveys. Reports of surveys shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to the start of and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

4.6	Biological Resources	<p>A Catalina Island Fox Construction Crew Educational Program must be prepared and implemented prior to construction. The Educational Program will include, but not be limited to, the items listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activity must be completed during the daylight hours (typically from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM) and construction activities must be avoided during the dawn (from two hours before sunup to one hour after sunup) and dusk periods (from one hour before sundown to two hours after sundown). 2. Construction activities should be avoided during the spring months (March 1 to July 1), which constitute the pupping season for this species. 3. Vehicles driving to and from each location must maintain a safe driving speed of 25 miles per hour or less to greatly reduce the possibility of any vehicle strikes. 4. Feeding of the Catalina Island fox shall be prohibited; this includes leaving food, trash, or trash cans on site. 5. No dogs shall accompany workers on site. 	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to the start of and during construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.7	Biological Resources	<p>No holes or trenches shall be left open and uncovered overnight that may trap or harm any Catalina Island fox. If a hole or trench cannot be filled prior to the end of the workday, the hole or trench will be covered with a plywood sheet and plastic sheeting extending several feet beyond the plywood will also be installed. A layer of soil will be placed along the edges of the plywood to eliminate all gaps and to prevent any foxes from entering the hole or trench. All trenches shall be equipped with escape ramps at times when persons are not present on site. Each morning, the plywood sheet will be removed and the hole or trench checked for any fox prior to continuing with construction activities. In the event that a fox is killed or falls in a hole and needs removal, a Conservancy Wildlife Biologist (legally permitted (Julie King, Calvin Duncan, or Tyler Dvorak) to handle Catalina Island foxes shall be contacted immediately, at (310) 510-1299 x230, x232, or x233 (office) or (310) 510-3102 (home).</p>	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request. Site inspection as needed.	During construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

4.8	Biological Resources	If any Catalina Island fox is observed in the project action area or immediate vicinity (within 100 feet), then construction activities should stop until the fox has moved out of the immediate area (within a 150-foot buffer). Depending on the location (human areas such as campgrounds and youth camps), foxes may be very bold and persistent in approaching people to obtain/stole food. If habituated foxes are within 20 feet, crews are encouraged to clap their hands and yell to provide negative feedback and prevent further habituation. No objects such as rocks are ever to be thrown at a fox when trying to scare it out of an area.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request. Site inspection as needed.	During construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.9	Biological Resources	No containers exceeding five gallons in capacity may be left on site without a secure lid in order to avoid entrapment by a fox or drowning by a fox should the container fill with water during a rain event.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request. Site inspection as needed.	During construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.10	Biological Resources	When trail construction is conducted away from a tertiary road where an enclosed vehicle is not available to store food securely, trail crews are to transport all food items for the day in their backpacks, so all food on site will be contained prior to lunch breaks and all wrappers and trash will be returned to their packs and hiked out at the end of each day. No trash or trash receptacles will be left on site.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.11	Biological Resources	Conservancy Hiking Rules and Regulations, including issuance of permits, will be enforced to avoid unintended impacts. The Conservancy will staff a minimum of four rangers to act as policy and law enforcement with cooperation from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.	Maintain documentation of ranger staffing. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Ongoing post-construction	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
4.12	Biological Resources	New trails will be monitored for new introductions of target invasive species in the year following construction and on a three-year schedule subsequently. Target invasive species will be treated or removed within a 60 meter buffer on roads and a 10 meter buffer for trails following the Conservancy's Invasive Plant Management Plan framework (Appendix A of MND).	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Ongoing post-construction	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

5.1	Cultural Resources	Conduct Cultural Resources Surveys. Prior to construction, as based on final engineering, cultural resource surveys will be conducted in areas of the Area of Direct Impact (ADI) that have not been previously surveyed for the proposed project. Supplemental cultural resource surveys of all new areas that would be affected shall be conducted by a qualified professional Archaeologist. Any identified cultural resource would be documented and evaluated for its eligibility for listing in the CRHR. Ideally, cultural resources found to meet any of the CRHR eligibility criteria would be avoided and preserved in place. If avoidance is not feasible, then a qualified Archeologist shall develop and recommend to the Lead Agency appropriate mitigation measures to implement to reduce any impacts to a less than significant level. All ground-disturbing activities would be monitored by a qualified Archaeologist.	Secure a qualified archeologist. Reports of surveys shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to earth moving activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
5.2	Cultural Resources	Monitoring. Where feasible, all impacts to sites identified in the preliminary cultural resource inventories shall be avoided and protected. Monitoring of project construction shall occur in all areas of ground-disturbing activity that occur within 100 feet of a cultural resource or in areas that have the potential to uncover cultural resources as determined by the project Archaeologist.	Monitoring by a qualified archeologist when needed. Maintain log demonstrating compliance. Site inspection as needed.	During earthmoving activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

5.3	Cultural Resources	Encountering Cultural Resources. In the event cultural resources are encountered during construction of the Project, all ground-disturbing activities within the vicinity of the find shall cease and a qualified archaeologist and Native American Monitor shall be notified. The archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American Monitor shall make recommendations to the Lead Agency on the measures that shall be implemented to protect the discovered resources, including but not limited to recordation and excavation of the finds and evaluation and processing of the finds in accordance with § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. Potentially significant cultural resources consist of, but are not limited to, stone, bone, fossils, wood or shell artifacts or features, including hearths, structural remains, or historic dumpsites. If the resources are determined to be unique historic resources as defined under § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, Mitigation Measures shall be identified by the monitor and recommended to the Lead Agency. Appropriate Mitigation Measures for significant resources could include but not be limited to avoidance or capping, incorporation of the site in green space, parks, or open space, or data recovery excavations of the finds. No further earthwork shall occur in the area of the discovery until the Lead Agency approves the measures to protect these resources. Any archaeological artifacts recovered because will be donated to a qualified institution approved by the Lead Agency.	Archaeological monitoring and Native American monitor when there is a find. Maintain log demonstrating compliance. Site inspection as needed.	During earthmoving activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning, NAHC
9.1	Hazards / Hazardous Materials	The Conservancy shall confirm that a pregrade/pre-construction conference has been conducted to inform the project Contractor(s) and their staff of the high fire hazard conditions that exist in and around the project site and measures that they must implement to minimize the potential for construction-related fires.	Maintain documentation of pre construction conference. Maintain documentation of measures to be implemented by the project Contractor(s). Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	Prior to construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

10.1	Hydrology and Water Quality	Project construction shall comply with the Los Angeles County Construction Site Best Management Practices (BMPs) Manual to implement relevant and applicable measures to reduce or eliminate construction-related pollutants in the runoff. Measures to be implemented should address the following: scheduling construction activities outside of the rainy season; erosion and sediment control from site construction activities; control of waste and material pollution from equipment and vehicles. Document BMPs implemented during construction activities to address the previously listed areas of concern and provide documentation to Regional Planning Staff upon request.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
10.2	Hydrology and Water Quality	Trail work should be completed with standard trail construction hand tools only.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving and construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
10.3	Hydrology and Water Quality	Soil should not be transported offsite. Excess soil should be utilized onsite to strengthen the trail with manual compaction.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving and construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
10.4	Hydrology and Water Quality	All constructed trails should be built with a minimum 2%-5% cross-slope to properly sheet water across the trail and down slope following natural drainage patterns.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving and construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
10.5	Hydrology and Water Quality	Standard trail design techniques to move water across and off the trail tread should be used, such as reverse dips and water bars to reduce erosion.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving and construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning

10.6	Hydrology and Water Quality	Natural rock from the area, rather than imported rock, should be used if and when trail steps are required due to the natural steepness of the trail alignment or for support of the trail tread.	Maintain documentation demonstrating compliance. Documentation of compliance shall be made available to Regional Planning Staff at their request.	During earthmoving and construction activities	Applicant	Department of Regional Planning
19	Mitigation Compliance	As a means of ensuring compliance of above mitigation measures, the applicant and subsequent owner(s) are responsible for submitting compliance report to the Department of Regional Planning for review, and for replenishing the mitigation monitoring account if necessary until such as all mitigation measures have been implemented and completed.	Submittal and approval of compliance report and replenishing mitigation monitoring account	Yearly and as required until all measures are completed.	Applicant and subsequent owner(s)	Department of Regional Planning

* In the "#" column, the number before the decimal should always correspond with the chapter number in the initial study.

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4) / RCUP NO. 201500055 / RCDP NO. 201500061/ ENV NO. 201500094

The Department of Regional Planning staff has determined that the attached mitigation measures for the project are necessary in order to assure that the proposed project will not cause significant impacts on the environment.

The permittee shall deposit the sum of \$6,000.00 with the Department of Regional Planning within 30 days of permit approval in order to defray the cost of reviewing and verifying the information contained in the reports required by the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

As the applicant, I agree to incorporate these mitigation measures into the project, and understand that the public hearing and consideration by the Hearing Officer and/or Regional Planning Commission will be on the project as mitigation measures.

<u>Terry Beckel</u>	<u>7/19/16</u>
Applicant	Date
<u>-AA</u>	<u>7/19/16</u>
Staff	Date



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning
Planning for the Challenges Ahead



COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT BURDEN OF PROOF

Pursuant to Zoning Code Section 22.56.2320, the applicant shall substantiate the following:

(Do not repeat the statement or provide Yes/No responses. If necessary, attach additional pages.)

A. That the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program.

The project site has a general plan land use designation of open space/structured recreation and conservation/primitive recreation and a zoning designation of open space/conservation, both of which are consistent with the existing uses on the project site. Since the proposed project does not include changes in the existing land use or zoning designations and would not change the character or existing uses of the project site, the project is consistent with the local coastal program.

B. That any development, located between the nearest public road and the sea or shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone, is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code.

The proposed project would not interfere with the public's right of access and would be protected for recreational use. As such, the proposed project would be in conformance with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code.

APPLICANT'S AFFIDAVIT

I (We) being duly sworn, depose and say that the foregoing answers and statements herein contained and the information submitted are in all respects true and correct.

Executed this 11th day of July, 2016 at Long Beach, CA

Signed Tony Beakel

Anthony (Tony) Budrovich, President & CEO



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning
Planning for the Challenges Ahead



SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREAS BURDEN OF PROOF

Pursuant to Zoning Code Section 22.56.215, the applicant shall substantiate the following:
(Do not provide one word or Yes/No responses. If necessary, attach additional pages.)

<p>A. That the requested development is designed to be highly compatible with the bioticresources present, including the setting aside of appropriate and sufficient undisturbed areas.</p>
<p>The proposed project would utilize existing tertiary dirt roads, unofficial human social trails, and/or bison-made paths that can be realigned and recontoured to avoid steep grades and decrease erosion and soil loss, while avoiding sensitive biological resources. Undisturbed areas will remain in the project area. As a result, the proposed project is highly compatible with bioticresources.</p>
<p>B. That the requested development is designed to maintain water bodies, watercourses, and their tributaries in a natural state.</p>
<p>No federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), or other jurisdictional "waters of the U.S." or "waters of the State" will be impacted by implementation of the proposed project.</p>
<p>C. That the requested development is designed so that wildlife movement corridors (migratory paths) are left in an undisturbed and natural state.</p>
<p>The proposed project is located within a natural open space area that allows for unimpeded wildlife movement. The project will not construct any structures that would impede wildlife movement. Therefore, the project is not expected to affect wildlife movement.</p>
<p>D. That the requested development retains sufficient natural vegetative cover and/or open spaces to buffer critical resource areas from said requested development.</p>
<p>The proposed project would utilize existing tertiary dirt roads, trails, and animal paths that would be incorporated into an official, maintained trail system. Minor grading would create newpaths to connect trails. Therefore, the project overall will require very minor impacts toexisting vegetation. As a result, sufficient natural vegetative cover and open space will be retained.</p>
<p>E. That where necessary, fences or walls are provided to buffer important habitat areas from development.</p>
<p>No fences or walls are necessary due to the extremely limited impact of the project from trail users. Therefore, no fences or walls are proposed as part of the proposed project.</p>
<p>F. That roads and utilities serving the proposed development are located and designed so as to not conflict with critical resources, habitat areas or migratory paths.</p>
<p>No new roads or utilities are proposed as part of the proposed project.</p>



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning
Planning for the Challenges Ahead



CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT BURDEN OF PROOF

Pursuant to Zoning Code Section 22.56.040, the applicant shall substantiate the following:

(Do not repeat the statement or provide Yes/No responses. If necessary, attach additional pages.)

A. That the requested use at the location will not:

1. Adversely affect the health, peace, comfort or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area, or
2. Be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site, or
3. Jeopardize, endanger or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare.

The proposed project is located on property owned by the Catalina Island Conservancy. No people live or work in the vicinity of the project site, other than those employed by the conservancy. The proposed project involves only minor grading for trail creation, which would involve minor and temporary impacts to the area. As a result, the proposed project would not affect the health or welfare of people in the area, or affect the value of property owned by others, or jeopardize public health or welfare.

B. That the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in this Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area.

The proposed project is located entirely on property owned by the Catalina Island Conservancy; therefore, there are no surrounding development features with which the project needs to integrate. As a result, the project would comply with Title 22 (planning and zoning) under the countywide provisions.

C. That the proposed site is adequately served:

1. By highways or streets of sufficient width, and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate, and
2. By other public or private service facilities as are required.

The proposed project does not include construction or operation associated with an existing roadway. Neither trails nor the restrooms would require connections to the existing utility system.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING
320 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**PROJECT NO. R2015-01333-(4)
ENVIRONMENTAL CASE NO. 201500055**

- 1. DESCRIPTION:** The project proposes trails enhancements that alter 26.7 miles of existing social/game trails and minimally used dirt roads to create publicly accessible trails, linking to the existing island-wide trail system. The project incorporates portions of 36 parcels across the island. The project will also install wayfinding signage and eight waterless restrooms at high-use trailheads and campgrounds. The trails will conform to trail standards as recommended by the *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*. Additionally, three staging areas have been identified in existing developed areas at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch for storage of vehicles and construction materials for use during construction operations.
- 2. LOCATION:** Catalina Island
- 3. PROPONENT:**
Catalina Island Conservancy, P.O. Box 2739, Avalon, CA 90704
- 4. FINDINGS OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT:** Based on the initial study, it has been determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- 5. LOCATION AND CUSTODIAN OF RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS:** The location and custodian of the record of proceedings on which the adoption of this Mitigated Negative Declaration is based is:

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PREPARED BY: Adrine Arakelian, Zoning Permits West

DATE: 8/18/16

DRAFT

Environmental Checklist Form (Initial Study) County of Los Angeles, Department of Regional Planning



Project title: Catalina Island Trails Project, R2015-01333, RCUP 201500055, RCDP 201500061

Lead agency name and address: Los Angeles County, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012

Contact Person and phone number: Adrine Arakelian, 213.974.6462.

Project sponsor's name and address: Catalina Island Conservancy, P.O. Box 2739-125 Clarissa Avenue, Avalon, California 90704

Project location: Catalina Island

Assessors Parcel Numbers: 7480039001, 7480039005, 7480039008, 7480039011, 7480039012, 7480039014, 7480039016, 7480040003, 7480040004, 7480040008, 7480040010, 7480040012, 7480040015, 7480040029, 7480041001, 7480041012, 7480041040, 7480042010, 7480042011, 7480042013, 7480042014, 7480042023, 7480042056, 7480042058, 7480043013, 7480043014, 7480043016, 7480043017, 7480043018, 7480043019, 7480043020, 7480043021, 7480043025, 7480044001, 7480044002

USGS Quads: Santa Catalina Island North, Santa Catalina Island South, Santa Catalina Island East, and Santa Catalina Island West 7.5-minute USGS topographic quadrangles

Gross Acreage: Existing Trail System (144 acres); Proposed Trail Connections (27.41 acres)

General plan designation: Open Space/Structured Recreation; Conservation/Primitive Recreation; Community/Area wide Plan designation: Santa Catalina Island Local Coastal Plan (LCP) (Ordinance 89-0148); Santa Catalina Island Specific Plan (LADRP 1989)

Zoning: OS/C (Open Space/Conservation)

Description of project: The proposed Catalina Island Trails project is a two-year trails construction project that would alter 26.7 miles of social and/or game trails and old roadbeds (in segments ranging from approximately 0.4 to 4.3 miles in length) to become publicly accessible trails that would link to the existing 144-mile trail system. The project would employ local Avalon residents to the fullest extent possible and also would include employment for underserved youth from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. New trails would be incorporated into the existing system, many connecting to public access points, and others providing missing connectivity between trails and campsites. Updated trailheads with improved way-finding and eight additional public restrooms would improve access for hikers, the general public, and specifically Fourth District residents to Catalina Island's wildlands and outdoor recreational experiences. Hiking trails are Principal Permitted Uses under Title 22 (Sections 22.46.090[B][3] and [4]; Section 22.46.120[B]) and require approval of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP).

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The proposed project would utilize existing tertiary dirt roads, unofficial human social trails, and/or bison-made paths that can be realigned and recontoured to avoid steep grades and decrease erosion and soil loss, while avoiding sensitive biological resources.

Gentle outsloping of the trail tread would be combined with bench-cut construction techniques to prevent water from pooling on the trails. All trail construction and grading would be completed by crews of approximately 10 people using hand tools such as shovels, picks, pulaskis, spud bars, and lopping shears in order to greatly minimize any environmental impact. All displaced soil would remain on site and no soil would be brought in from other areas of the island (refer to Table 1 below). Maximum trail grade would not exceed 15 percent, with an average grade of 10 percent or less. Grades greater than 15 percent would require special construction techniques such as steps made of stone, which would only be used for short stretches if no other realignment alternative was possible for a particular section.

Table 1
Trail Construction Mileage, Acreage, and Soil Grading

<i>Trail Name</i>	<i>Game/ Social Trail</i>	<i>Tertiary Dirt Road</i>	<i>Total Miles</i>	<i>Total Acres</i>
Alternative Two Harbors Exit	—	0.49	0.49	0.72
Big Springs Connector	0.84	1.92	2.76	3.00
Cottonwood Canyon Trail	0.51	3.05	3.56	4.57
Dacite Ridge	1.81	1.68	3.49	2.88
Eagle's Nest Loop	—	2.42	2.42	3.51
Inspiration Point Overlook	0.41	—	0.41	0.10
Old West End Road	—	0.83	0.83	1.21
Palisades Overlook	0.17	0.89	1.07	1.34

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<i>Trail Name</i>	<i>Game/Social Trail</i>	<i>Tertiary Dirt Road</i>	<i>Total Miles</i>	<i>Total Acres</i>
Parsons Reroute	—	0.42	0.42	0.62
Patriot Ridge	0.91	—	0.91	0.22
Sheep Chute Reroute (Big Springs)	2.92	1.43	4.34	2.78
Sheep Chute to Empire	1.41	1.43	2.84	2.42
Silver Peak Trail	—	2.71	2.71	3.95
Windward Overlook	0.44	—	0.44	0.11
Total	9.43	17.27	26.70	27.41

Construction activities would take place beginning late spring 2016 and continue through early summer. Dry conditions and high daytime temperatures would halt construction by July until fall 2016. Construction would resume in early fall 2016 and continue through early summer 2017. Final trail completion would occur by December 2017.

Eight Romtec Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant waterless restrooms would also be installed at high-use trailheads and campgrounds to provide infrastructural support to the proposed trails. Four single-stall restroom structures would be installed at Cherry Cove, West Corrals, Ben Weston Trailhead, and at the Divide Road/Lone Tree Trail intersections, while four double-stall structures would be installed at the Blackjack Campground, Haypress Recreation Area, Parsons Landing Campground, and Shark Harbor Campground.

Three small staging areas have been identified at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch for crew transport vehicles, restroom construction supplies, and tools (refer to Exhibit 2). Each staging area is an existing parking area and would not be impacted by the limited use associated with the project. Table 2 shows the proposed project in relation to the 18 Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) and 36 Assessor Parcels that trails would pass through (refer to Exhibit 3).

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Table 2
Project Area Assessor's Parcel Numbers and Significant Ecological Areas

<i>Project Parcels</i>	<i>Parcel Lot No.</i>	<i>Parcel Acres</i>	<i>Significant Ecological Areas Names</i>
7480039001	90	452.0	
7480039005	94	378.5	Silver Peak
7480039008	97	471.2	Cherry Valley
7480039011	100	618.2	Parson's Landing; Arrow Point
7480039012	101	577.6	Silver Peak
7480039014	103	542.3	Silver Peak
7480039016	105	392.6	Black Point
7480040003	73	465.3	
7480040004	74	468.2	
7480040008	78	548.4	
7480040009	79	345.1	
7480040010	80	609.1	
7480040012	84	604.9	
7480040015	87	384.2	Upper Isthmus Canyon
7480040029	77	552.7	
7480041001	62	264.6	Skull Canyon
7480041012	81	331.7	
7480041040	69	496.2	Black Jack Mountain; Echo Lake
7480042010	38	493.9	
7480042011	39	570.4	
7480042013	48	506.0	Cape Canyon
7480042014	49	639.0	
7480042023	50	370.7	
7480042056	16	462.9	Haypress Area; Upper Descanso Canyon
7480042058	19	452.2	Haypress Area
7480043013	44	419.7	Middle Ranch Canyon; Ben Weston Beach; Sweetwater Canyon
7480043014	45	403.5	Middle Ranch Canyon
7480043016	56	556.8	Mount Orizaba
7480043017	57	340.3	
7480043018	58	317.1	Little Harbor/Shark Harbor/Indian Head Point; Cottonwood Canyon; Sweetwater Canyon
7480043019	59	450.5	Little Harbor/Shark Harbor/Indian Head Point
7480043020	60	591.7	
7480043021	61	477.7	
7480043025	40	413.3	
7480044001	10	635.8	
7480044002	11	501.7	
Source: Catalina Island Conservancy 2015			

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Surrounding land uses and setting: Catalina Island is a 76-square-mile (48,400 acres) island located 25 miles south of coastal Los Angeles, in Los Angeles County. It is 20.0 miles long from west to east and has a maximum width of approximately 7.8 miles and an isthmus of just 0.4 mile. Elevation on the island ranges from sea level to 2,100 feet above mean seal level (msl) with a rugged topography dominated by a northwest-southeast mountain range containing a series of lateral canyons. A narrow isthmus located at the community of Two Harbors geographically separates the island into two distinct sides; the larger East End comprises 84 percent of the entire island, and the smaller West End comprises the remaining 16 percent.

Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

<i>Public Agency</i>	<i>Approval Required</i>
<u>California Coastal Commission</u>	<u>Coastal Development Permit</u>

Major projects in the area:

<i>Project/ Case No.</i>	<i>Description and Status</i>
<u>White's Landing Pier Replacement Project</u>	<u>Reconstruction of the White's Landing Pier, which was severely damaged by Hurricane Marie on August 26, 2014. Project status is complete and was approved by the County of Los Angeles in August 2015.</u>
<u>San Diego Yacht Club Cabin Expansion Project/R2014-01628</u>	<u>Construction of four cabins of approximately 150-300 sf in area with accessory structures in a previously developed campground.</u>
<u>Howland's Landing Water Well /R2014-02181</u>	<u>New water well that serves the campgrounds west of Two Harbors.</u>

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Reviewing Agencies:

<i>Responsible Agencies</i>	<i>Special Reviewing Agencies</i>	<i>Regional Significance</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> None Regional Water Quality Control Board: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles Region <input type="checkbox"/> Lahontan Region <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Army Corps of Engineers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy <input type="checkbox"/> National Parks <input type="checkbox"/> National Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Edwards Air Force Base <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains Area	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> SCAG Criteria <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Area
<i>Trustee Agencies</i>	<i>County Reviewing Agencies</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Dept. of Parks and Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission <input type="checkbox"/> University of California (Natural Land and Water Reserves System)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DPW: - Land Development Division (Grading & Drainage) - Geotechnical & Materials Engineering Division - Watershed Management Division (NPDES) - Environmental Programs Division - Waterworks Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Department - Forestry, Environmental Division - Planning Division - Land Development Unit - Health Hazmat <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitation District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Health/Environmental Health Division: Land Use Program (OWTS), Drinking Water Program (Private Wells), Toxics Epidemiology Program (Noise) <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision Committee

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture/Forest | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils | | |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Department.)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.


Signature (Prepared by)

6/29/16
Date


Signature (Approved by)

6/29/16
Date

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EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources the Lead Department cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the Lead Department has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level. (Mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced.)
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA processes, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. (State CEQA Guidelines § 15063(c)(3)(D).) In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of, and adequately analyzed in, an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 7) The explanation of each issue should identify: the significance threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question, and; mitigation measures identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance. Sources of thresholds include the County General Plan, other County planning documents, and County ordinances. Some thresholds are unique to geographical locations.
- 8) Climate Change Impacts: When determining whether a project's impacts are significant, the analysis should consider, when relevant, the effects of future climate change on : 1) worsening hazardous conditions that pose risks to the project's inhabitants and structures (e.g., floods and wildfires), and 2)

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worsening the project's impacts on the environment (e.g., impacts on special status species and public health).

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1. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Much of the character of Catalina Island is due to the scenic vistas that are visibly available to its residents and visitors (City of Avalon 2013a). Implementation of the proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. During construction, views of scenic vistas from the project site may be blocked by construction vehicles and equipment. Staging areas for equipment and supplies have been designated in parking lots and previously disturbed areas to minimize disturbance of scenic areas (see Exhibit 2). Any visual impacts would be temporary and would be less than significant. Following construction, the visual character of the site would not be substantially altered and views of scenic vistas would not be blocked or obscured. Therefore, impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
b) Be visible from or obstruct views from a regional riding or hiking trail?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>The proposed project involves improvements to the existing Catalina Island trail system. As stated previously, views from these trails would not be blocked or obstructed. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
c) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>As stated previously, the proposed project would not substantially change or have substantial negative effects on any scenic resources within or adjacent to the project site. In addition, there are no State-designated scenic highways within the vicinity of the project site (Caltrans 2011). Therefore, the proposed project would not impact scenic resources along a scenic highway and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
d) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings because of height, bulk, pattern, scale, character, or other features?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Existing views would be affected by short-term construction activities on the site and would include views of disturbed soils, construction equipment and vehicles, staging areas, grading, and construction activities. These impacts to the visual quality of the area would be short-term and temporary and would not be considered significant.</u></p> <p><u>In the long-term, views are not expected to be considered a degradation of visual quality since the project is</u></p>				

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proposing to utilize already-existing tertiary dirt roads, unofficial human social trails, and/or bison-made paths. Therefore, the project would result in less than significant adverse impacts on visual quality and no mitigation measures would be required.

e) Create a new source of substantial shadows, light, or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

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The proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Construction is not proposed outside of daylight hours, and no additional lighting is proposed as part of the project, including the use of nighttime lighting. Therefore, no nighttime views would be impacted as a result of the proposed project. Impacts related to light and glare would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.

2. AGRICULTURE / FOREST

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project site does not contain land designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. There are no agricultural resources or operations located on or near the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the conversion of designated farmlands, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP 2012). Additionally, the proposed project is not located in an area zoned for agricultural use nor would it conflict with a Williamson Act contract. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, with a designated Agricultural Opportunity Area, or with a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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<u>Refer to Threshold 2(a) above.</u>				
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code § 12220 (g)), timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined in Government Code § 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project site is not zoned as forest land as defined by Section 12220(g) of the California Public Resources Code, as timberland as defined by Section 4526 of the California Public Resources Code, or as timberland zoned for timberland production as defined by Section 51104(g) of the California Public Resources Code. The existing zoning for the project site is Open Space/Conservation. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause the rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for timberland production. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 2(c) above.</u>				
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 2(c) above.</u>				

3. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of applicable air quality plans of either the South Coast AQMD (SCAQMD) or the Antelope Valley AQMD (AVAQMD)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project would not generate pollutant emissions that would approach South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) CEQA significance thresholds, as discussed in Thresholds 3(b) and (c) below. The project would not result in increased population of the island or induce growth not anticipated</u>				

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<u>in the 2012 Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), 2016 Draft SCAG RTP/SCS, or 2012 SCAQMD Air Quality Management Plan. Any impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As stated in the Project Description, trail construction and grading would be completed by crews of approximately 10 people using primarily hand tools such as shovels, picks, pulaskis, spud bars, and lopping shears. Pollutant emissions would be limited to the use of small gasoline or diesel engine vehicles used for the transportation of workers and tools to and from the work sites, materials (fencing, restroom elements, signs, etc.) to the work sites, and for removal of brush from the work sites. Emissions would be a small fraction of SCAQMD CEQA significance thresholds for regional and local construction emissions.</u>				
<u>Maintenance of the trail system would include occasional use of small gasoline or diesel engine vehicles for the transportation of workers and tools. Emissions would be a small fraction of SCAQMD CEQA significance thresholds for operational emissions. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project region is designated as a federal or state nonattainment area for ozone, respirable particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less (PM10), and particles equal to or smaller than 2.5 microns in size (PM2.5). Ozone precursors are volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx). As discussed above, project construction and operational activities would generate pollutants; these pollutants include VOCs, NOx, PM10 and PM2.5. Emissions would be a small fraction of the applicable SCAQMD CEQA significance thresholds.</u>				
<u>The SCAQMD considers cumulative impacts to be the same as direct impacts. Therefore, because the nonattainment pollutant emissions would be less than the SCAQMD CEQA significance thresholds, the cumulative impact would be less than significant.</u>				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As previously described, project construction would be primarily with hand tools. Construction emissions would not be of the magnitude to result in substantial concentrations at nearby receptors. Similarly, operational vehicle use would not result in traffic congestion associated with substantial carbon monoxide concentrations (hotspots). The project would not create any sources of toxic air contaminants. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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number of people?				
<u>The project is not a landfill, wastewater treatment plant, or other facility commonly associated with the generation of objectionable odors. The proposed restrooms may occasionally be a source of objectionable odors at times of maximum use and in adverse weather conditions. However, these occasions would be minimal and the number of people affected would not be substantial. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The information in this section summarizes the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment: Catalina Island Trails Project* (Catalina Island Conservancy 2015), which is included in Appendix A.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special Status Plants

Table 4 from the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment* identified 27 special status plant species with the potential to be present within the project area during focused surveys. Of these, six California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) List 1B.2 plant species (Santa Catalina Island manzanita [*Arctostaphylos catalinae*], Coulter's saltbush [*Atriplex coulteri*], Catalina crossosoma [*Crossosoma californicum*], Santa Catalina Island currant [*Ribes viburnifolium*], Santa Catalina figwort [*Scrophularia villosa*], and Santa Catalina Island bedstraw [*Galium catalinense* ssp. *catalinense*]), one CRPR List 2B.2 plant species (velvet cactus [*Bergerocactus emoryi*]), and one federally listed Threatened plant/CRPR List 1B.2 (Island rush-rose [*Helianthemum greeneri*]) were observed within the project study area. The proposed project has been designed to avoid direct impacts to these known individuals or populations. However, even with avoidance planning, some disturbance may occur that could affect special status plant species. This impact would be considered potentially significant. Implementation of MM 4-1 would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

Due to the timing of the Initial Study and ongoing drought conditions, it is unlikely that many of the special status plant species would be observed. Table 5 from the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment* has identified additional special status plant species that have potential to occur within the project study area based on the presence of potentially suitable habitat. Two of these species are either federally or State-listed Endangered and the remaining eight are CRPR List 1B species. This impact would be considered potentially significant.

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Implementation of MMs 4-1 and 4-2 would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

Special Status Wildlife

Table 6 from the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment* identified 15 special status wildlife species that have potential to occur within the project area based on previously recorded occurrences and the presence of suitable habitat. Of these, three federally or State-listed species were determined to be present within the project area (bald eagle [*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*], Townsend's big-eared bat [*Corynorhinus townsendii*], and Santa Catalina Island fox [*Urocyon littoralis catalinae*]); two California Species of Special Concern were determined to have low potential to occur (Santa Catalina garter snake [*Thamnophis hammondi* ssp.] and California mountain kingsnake [*Lampropeltis zonata*]); five California bird Species of Special Concern were determined to be present (burrowing owl [*Athene cunicularia*], Catalina California quail [*Callipepla californica catalinensis*], Catalina Hutton's vireo [*Vireo huttoni unitti*], island loggerhead shrike [*Lanius ludovicianus anthonyi*], and San Clemente spotted towhee [*Pipilo maculatus clementae*]); three Audubon Sensitive birds were determined to be present (horned lark [*Eremophila alpestris insularis*], western meadow lark [*Sturnella neglecta*], and mountain bluebird [*Sialia currucoides*]); and two California Species of Special Concern mammals were determined to have moderate potential to be present (pallid bat [*Antrozous pallidus*] and Santa Catalina Island shrew [*Sorex ornatus willetti*]).

Project activities may result in potentially significant impacts to these species. Implementation of MMs 4-1, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, and 4-7 would reduce impacts to less than significant.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any sensitive natural communities (e.g., riparian habitat, coastal sage scrub, oak woodlands, non-jurisdictional wetlands) identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by CDFW or USFWS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Table 3 below identifies the amount of each vegetation type, including sensitive habitat that would be impacted by the proposed project.

Table 3
Vegetation Community Impacts Associated with Trails Construction and Restroom Installation, Which Includes Los Angeles County Department of Forestry Vegetation Modification Zones

Vegetation Community	Existing (acres)	Permanent Impact (acres)	Temporary Impact (acres)	Total Impact (acres)
grassland	8,944	1.07	0.3531	1.4231
chaparral	13,734	0.31	0.1023	0.4123
coastal sage scrub	17,860	0.94	0.3102	1.2502
bare	4,414	2.51	0.8283	3.3383
Total	44,952	4.83	1.5939	6.4239

Source: Santa Catalina Island Conservancy 2015

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Approximately 0.9400 acre of coastal sage scrub would potentially be permanently impacted by the proposed project and 0.3102 acre of coastal sage scrub would potentially be temporarily impacted by the proposed project. This impact would be potentially significant. Implementation of MMs 4-7 and 4-8 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally or state protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marshes, vernal pools, coastal wetlands, and drainages) or waters of the United States, as defined by § 404 of the federal Clean Water Act or California Fish & Game code § 1600, et seq. through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

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No federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), or other waters under the jurisdictional authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), or the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) would be directly impacted by implementation of the proposed project. Therefore, no impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

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Wildlife Movement

Wildlife is able to move relatively unimpeded throughout Catalina Island due to its lack of development and contiguity of relatively undisturbed native habitat that provides valuable nesting, foraging, roosting, and denning opportunities for a variety of wildlife species, both resident and migratory. A series of three 5-foot-tall wire fences were installed across the island to assist in the eradication of invasive feral animals in the 1990s. This fencing remains in place; however, its design allows the majority of island wildlife to bypass it. Smaller animals such as the Santa Catalina Island fox, Catalina California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi nesioticus*), Catalina Island deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus catalinae*), and Catalina harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis catalinae*) can move under or through it due to the six-inch by six-inch mesh size, while larger introduced animals such as mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and American bison (*Bison bison*) can jump over it. Activities associated with the proposed project would not impede wildlife movement, including wildlife dispersal into new areas. Therefore, no impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act Many common (including raptors) and special status bird species have potential to nest within all of the vegetation types in the project area. The loss of an active migratory bird nest, including common species, would be considered a violation of the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA protects the taking of migratory birds and their nests and eggs. Bird species protected under the provisions of the MBTA are identified by the List of Migratory Birds (50 *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] 10.13, as amended). Compliance with MM 4-3, which addresses the requirements of the MBTA, including the time frames that construction could occur, would ensure that potential impacts would be less

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than significant.

e) Convert oak woodlands (as defined by the state, oak woodlands are oak stands with greater than 10% canopy cover with oaks at least 5 inch in diameter measured at 4.5 feet above mean natural grade) or otherwise contain oak or other unique native trees (junipers, Joshuas, southern California black walnut, etc.)?

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Implementation of the proposed project would not result in conversion of, or any impacts to, oak woodlands. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

f) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, including Wildflower Reserve Areas (L.A. County Code, Title 12, Ch. 12.36), the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.56, Part 16), the Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) (L.A. County Code, Title 22, § 22.56.215), and Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas (SERAs) (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.44, Part 6)?

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Implementation of the Catalina Island Trails project is not expected to conflict with the Catalina Island SEAs and the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

g) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted state, regional, or local habitat conservation plan?

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Implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plans. Catalina Island is not a member of the Natural Community Conservation Plan program.¹ The proposed project area is not located within a Habitat Conservation Plan area.² Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

Mitigation Measures

MM 4-1 A qualified Biologist will monitor construction activities during initial ground disturbance in previously undisturbed native plant communities. The Biologist will have the authority to stop work and will immediately contact the Conservancy and other appropriate agencies if unintentional effects to sensitive species occur. Prior to the start of construction activities, the Biologist shall confirm that the limits of the project work areas will be clearly delineated to prevent inadvertent impacts to adjacent areas.

A Biologist will conduct a sensitive resources training session that includes information on

¹ <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=68626&inline>

² http://www.fws.gov/carlsbad/HCPs/documents/hcp_inrmp_20150127.pdf

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potential sensitive resources within the project disturbance area for all project personnel prior to project implementation.

All vehicles operated within all project areas will be inspected daily and maintained, if necessary, to avoid leaks of fuel, hydraulic fluids, oil, or coolants.

Work areas will be kept clean and carefully controlled of waste products at all work sites to avoid attracting predators, such as foxes, ravens, feral cats, and any other wildlife species.

All work will be jointly supervised by the Conservancy's Facilities and Conservation Departments.

MM 4-2 Prior to construction activities, focused surveys for special status plant species identified in Table 5 (of the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment*) will be conducted by a qualified Biologist within the proposed project impact area. The survey will be done during the species' blooming periods in accordance with the most current protocols approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). If the species is present within the impact area of the project, its rarity and abundance will be evaluated by a qualified Biologist. If the finding is considered to be significant, the appropriate mitigation will be implemented.

MM 4-3 The project shall be conducted in compliance with the conditions set forth in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and *California Fish and Game Code* with methods approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the CDFW to protect active bird/raptor nests. To the maximum extent feasible, vegetation removal shall occur during the non-breeding season for nesting birds (generally late September to early February) and nesting raptors (generally early July to late January) to avoid impacts to nesting birds and raptors. If the nature of the project requires that work would be initiated during the breeding season for nesting birds (February 1 to September 30) and nesting raptors (February 1 to June 30), in order to avoid direct impacts on active nests, a pre-construction survey shall be conducted by a qualified Biologist for nesting birds and/or raptors within 3 days prior to clearing of any vegetation (i.e., within 300 feet for nesting birds and within 500 feet for nesting raptors). If the Biologist does not find any active nests within or immediately adjacent to the impact area, the vegetation clearing/construction work shall be allowed to proceed.

If the Biologist finds an active nest within or immediately adjacent to the construction area and determines that the nest may be impacted or breeding activities substantially disrupted, the Biologist shall delineate an appropriate buffer zone around the nest depending on the sensitivity of the species and the nature of the construction activity. Any nest found during survey efforts shall be mapped on the construction plans. The active nest shall be protected until nesting activity has ended. To protect any nest site, the following restrictions to construction activities shall be required until nests are no longer active, as determined by a qualified Biologist: (1) clearing limits shall be established within a buffer around any occupied nest (the buffer shall be 100–300 feet for nesting birds and 300–500 feet for nesting raptors), unless otherwise determined by a qualified Biologist and (2) access and surveying shall be restricted within the buffer of any occupied nest, unless otherwise determined by a qualified Biologist. Encroachment into the buffer area around a known nest shall only be allowed if the Biologist determines that the proposed activity would not disturb the nest occupants. Construction can proceed when the qualified Biologist has determined that fledglings have left the nest or the nest has failed.

Due to the linear nature of trails construction, if the Biologist determines that the work crews can

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“skip” or move beyond a delineated nesting buffer area and continue working farther down the trail and return to finish the skipped segment weeks later (post fledging), work can continue while avoiding significant impacts.

- MM 4-4** A pre-construction burrowing owl survey will take place within a month before earth disturbance (construction). The surveys will be conducted by a qualified Biologist as close to the actual construction initiation date as possible. Surveys will be conducted by walking suitable habitat on the project sites in areas within 150 meters (500 feet) (where possible) of the project impact zone.

Potential project impacts to owls that are detected utilizing burrows will be avoided by ensuring there is no disturbance within 50 meters (160 feet) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season of September 1 through January 31 or within 75 meters (approximately 250 feet) during the breeding season of February 1 through August 31. No owls will be moved away from the disturbance area and no passive or active relocation of owls will occur. Similarly, no burrows of any kind will be destroyed. All mitigation will include avoidance.

- MM 4-5** A qualified Biologist shall conduct a pre-construction bat occupancy assessment at the Cherry Cove (Salina) mine adit prior to construction of a waterless restroom facility 425 feet in elevation above the mine. A bat-friendly gate was installed during February 2015, so it is unconfirmed as of January 2016 if bats have begun to utilize this mine. Restroom construction will not take place during the bat maternity roost season (March 1 to August 1) if a maternal colony has been confirmed by a Biologist through non-invasive outflight counts with night-vision goggles and thermal imaging scopes. If no outflights occur over two consecutive nights, an interior survey of the adit will take place during the day to confirm the absence of bats. If no bats are present, the Biologist will approve construction proceeding.

The two Cottonwood Prospects are not long enough (approximately 25 feet) to support a maternal colony, however, they do provide roosting habitat for bachelors. Trail crews doing trail realignment using hand tools will be instructed not to leave the construction site to investigate either Prospect when working on the lower portions of the Cottonwood Canyon Trail segment. The Prospects are well-hidden by vegetation and steep topography, so would likely go unnoticed. No trees will be removed or limbed as part of the Project, so surveys for tree roosting bats are not necessary.

- MM 4-6** Implementation of the following mitigation measures and construction management requirements would ensure that the proposed project completely avoids impacts to the Catalina Island fox:

- A Catalina Island Fox Construction Crew Educational Program must be prepared and implemented prior to construction. The Educational Program will include, but not be limited to, the items listed below:
 - Construction activity must be completed during the daylight hours (typically from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM) and construction activities must be avoided during the dawn (from two hours before sunup to one hour after sunup) and dusk periods (from one hour before sundown to two hours after sundown).
 - Construction activities should be avoided during the spring months (March 1 to July 1), which constitute the pupping season for this species.
 - Vehicles driving to and from each location must maintain a safe driving speed of 25 miles per hour or less to greatly reduce the possibility of any vehicle strikes.
 - Feeding of the Catalina Island fox shall be prohibited; this includes leaving food,

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trash, or trash cans on site.

- No dogs shall accompany workers on site.

- No holes or trenches shall be left open and uncovered overnight that may trap or harm any Catalina Island fox. If a hole or trench cannot be filled prior to the end of the workday, the hole or trench will be covered with a plywood sheet and plastic sheeting extending several feet beyond the plywood will also be installed. A layer of soil will be placed along the edges of the plywood to eliminate all gaps and to prevent any foxes from entering the hole or trench. All trenches shall be equipped with escape ramps at times when persons are not present on site. Each morning, the plywood sheet will be removed and the hole or trench checked for any fox prior to continuing with construction activities. In the event that a fox is killed or falls in a hole and needs removal, a Conservancy Wildlife Biologist legally permitted (Julie King, Calvin Duncan, or Tyler Dvorak) to handle Catalina Island foxes shall be contacted immediately, at (310) 510-1299 x230, x232, or x233 (office) or (310) 510-3102 (home).
- No containers exceeding five gallons in capacity may be left on site without a secure lid in order to avoid entrapment by a fox or drowning by a fox should the container fill with water during a rain event.
- If any Catalina Island fox is observed in the project action area or immediate vicinity (within 100 feet), then construction activities should stop until the fox has moved out of the immediate area (within a 150-foot buffer). Depending on the location (human areas such as campgrounds and youth camps), foxes may be very bold and persistent in approaching people to obtain/steal food. If habituated foxes are within 20 feet, crews are encouraged to clap their hands and yell to provide negative feedback and prevent further habituation. No objects such as rocks are ever to be thrown at a fox when trying to scare it out of an area.
- When trail construction is conducted away from a tertiary road where an enclosed vehicle is not available to store food securely, trail crews are to transport all food items for the day in their backpacks, so all food on site will be contained prior to lunch breaks and all wrappers and trash will be returned to their packs and hiked out at the end of each day. No trash or trash receptacles will be left on site.

MM 4-7 Conservancy Hiking Rules and Regulations, including issuance of permits, will be enforced to avoid unintended impacts. The Conservancy will staff a minimum of four rangers to act as policy and law enforcement with cooperation from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

MM 4-8 New trails will be monitored for new introductions of target invasive species in the year following construction and on a three-year schedule subsequently. Target invasive species will be treated or removed within a 60 meter buffer on roads and a 10 meter buffer for trails following the Conservancy's Invasive Plant Management Plan framework (Attachment C of the *Biota Report/Biological Assessment*).

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5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>The Pimu Catalina Archaeology Project (PCIAP) has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Catalina Island Conservancy to provide input on Conservancy projects that may impact cultural resources. The PCIAP has reviewed the project description, preliminary alignments, site plans, and the preliminary construction details regarding the proposed Catalina Island Trails project as well as known locations of cultural resources on Catalina Island (refer to Appendix B).</u></p> <p><u>Based on their review, portions of the project may impact cultural resources that may be eligible for listing on the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR). However, with the incorporation of the proposed mitigation measures described below, impact to these resources would be less than significant.</u></p> <p><u>The new trails that would be created using existing roads would not require significant soil disturbance. These roads were surveyed from 2008 to 2016 and no new impacts to cultural resources were identified.</u></p> <p><u>Some of the new trails that would be created using existing animal trails were also surveyed from 2008 to 2016 and several cultural sites were identified. These sites have not been evaluated for listing on the CRHR. However, with the incorporation of Mitigation Measure (MM) 5-2 and MM 5-3, impacts to potentially eligible historic resources would be reduced to a less than significant level.</u></p> <p><u>The proposed trail signage locations have not been surveyed as these locations have not been finalized. However, with the incorporation of MM 5-1 through MM 5-3, impacts to potential resources would be reduced to a less than significant level.</u></p> <p><u>The locations of the proposed restrooms were surveyed in 2016 and no cultural resources were identified. However, the depth of the pits that would be dug may have the potential to uncover buried cultural deposits. With the implementation of MM 5-2, impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level.</u></p> <p><u>The Middle Ranch staging area was surveyed in 2001 and no cultural resources were identified.</u></p> <p><u>When the Airport in the Sky was constructed in 1946 for the Santa Catalina Company, the crests of the two mountains were destroyed by means of explosives. The resulting 200,000 truckloads of blasting debris were used to fill in the gap between the two newly leveled mountaintops. Since the Airport staging area is man-made and heavily disturbed, no intact cultural resources would be impacted by the project.</u></p> <p><u>The Parson's staging areas were surveyed in 2008 and no cultural resources were identified within the project area.</u></p>				

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b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refer to Threshold 5(a) above.				
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature, or contain rock formations indicating potential paleontological resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Development of the proposed project is not expected to uncover any paleontological resources. However, there is the possibility that paleontological resources exist at subsurface levels and the uncovering of such resources could occur during excavation activities. Therefore, there is the potential that grading and excavation activities related to the development of the proposed project could result in the disturbance of undiscovered paleontological resources, thereby resulting in a potentially significant impact. Potential effects to unknown resources would be reduced to less than significant levels through the implementation of MM 5-3 listed below.</u></p>				
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refer to Threshold 5(a) above.				
e) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in CEQA Public Resources Code § 21074?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Effective July 1, 2015, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 requires meaningful consultation with California Native American Tribes on potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined in Public Resources Code §21074. A tribe must submit a written request to the relevant lead agency if it wishes to be notified of proposed projects in its traditionally and culturally affiliated area. The lead agency must provide written, formal notification to the tribes that have requested it within 14 days of either determining that a project application is complete or deciding to undertake a project. The tribe must respond to the lead agency within 30 days of receipt of the notification if it wishes to engage in consultation on the project, and the lead agency must begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving the request for consultation. Consultation concludes when one of the following occurs: (1) the parties agree to mitigation measures to avoid a significant effect, if one exists, on a tribal cultural resource or (2) a party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. AB 52 also addresses confidentiality during tribal consultation in accordance with Public Resources Code §21082.3(c).</u></p> <p><u>No requests have been received by the Lead Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, for formal notification of proposed projects by a California Native American tribe for the geographic area of this project (refer to Appendix B). Based on the above information, no impacts to tribal cultural resources would occur, and no mitigation is required.</u></p>				

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Mitigation Measures

- 5-1 Conduct Cultural Resources Surveys.** Prior to construction, as based on final engineering, cultural resource surveys will be conducted in areas of the Area of Direct Impact (ADI) that have not been previously surveyed for the proposed project. Supplemental cultural resource surveys of all new areas that would be affected shall be conducted by a qualified professional Archaeologist. Any identified cultural resource would be documented and evaluated for its eligibility for listing in the CRHR. Ideally, cultural resources found to meet any of the CRHR eligibility criteria would be avoided and preserved in place. If avoidance is not feasible, then a qualified Archeologist shall develop and recommend to the Lead Agency appropriate mitigation measures to implement to reduce any impacts to a less than significant level. All ground-disturbing activities would be monitored by a qualified Archaeologist.
- 5-2 Monitoring.** Where feasible, all impacts to sites identified in the preliminary cultural resource inventories shall be avoided and protected. Monitoring of project construction shall occur in all areas of ground-disturbing activity that occur within 100 feet of a cultural resource or in areas that have the potential to uncover cultural resources as determined by the project Archaeologist
- 5-3 Encountering Cultural Resources.** In the event cultural resources are encountered during construction of the Project, all ground-disturbing activities within the vicinity of the find shall cease and a qualified archaeologist and Native American Monitor shall be notified. The archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American Monitor shall make recommendations to the Lead Agency on the measures that shall be implemented to protect the discovered resources, including but not limited to recordation and excavation of the finds and evaluation and processing of the finds in accordance with § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. Potentially significant cultural resources consist of, but are not limited to, stone, bone, fossils, wood or shell artifacts or features, including hearths, structural remains, or historic dumpsites. If the resources are determined to be unique historic resources as defined under § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, Mitigation Measures shall be identified by the monitor and recommended to the Lead Agency. Appropriate Mitigation Measures for significant resources could include but not be limited to avoidance or capping, incorporation of the site in green space, parks, or open space, or data recovery excavations of the finds. No further earthwork shall occur in the area of the discovery until the Lead Agency approves the measures to protect these resources. Any archaeological artifacts recovered because will be donated to a qualified institution approved by the Lead Agency.

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6. ENERGY

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with Los Angeles County Green Building Standards Code (L.A. County Code Title 31)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>In 2013, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Angeles County Green Building Standards Code (L.A. County Code Title 31) in response to the mandates set forth in the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen). The newly adopted L.A. County Code Title 31 provides the County with local control and regulation of the CALGreen Code, which requires that new buildings be environmentally responsible by reducing water consumption; employing building commissioning to increase building system efficiencies; diverting construction waste from landfills; and installing low pollutant-emitting finish materials. The proposed project does not include the construction of buildings or other habitable structures; therefore, it would not be required to comply with the CALGreen Code, as adopted by Los Angeles County as L.A. County Code Title 31. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are required.</u></p>				
b) Involve the inefficient use of energy resources (see Appendix F of the CEQA Guidelines)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Refer to Threshold 6(a) above.				

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known active fault trace? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Primary ground rupture or fault rupture is defined as surface displacement, which occurs along a fault during an earthquake. No active or potentially active faults have been identified on Catalina Island. Two major faults are located within the general area of the island: the San Clemente Escarpment to the south and the Newport- Inglewood Fault to the northeast. Of these, the Newport-Inglewood is the most hazardous. At least four other faults are closer to the island, these include the Catalina Escarpment (to the south), an unnamed escarpment, the San Pedro Escarpment, and the Palos Verdes Fault (to the north). The project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone as illustrated on the maps issued by the State Geologist for the area (DOC 2015). The project does not include any habitable structures and would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects related to fault rupture during a seismic event. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

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The project site is located in the seismically active Southern California region, which is prone to earthquakes that may result in hazardous conditions to people within the region. According to the California Geological Survey (CGS) and as discussed in Threshold 7(a)(i) above, there are no active faults mapped within the project site. Earthquakes and ground motion can affect a widespread area. The potential severity of ground shaking depends on many factors, including distance from the originating fault, the earthquake magnitude, and the nature of the earth materials below the site. The proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and the installation of public restrooms. This type of project poses relatively minimal threat to people who may be using the trails during a seismic event. Therefore, impacts associated with seismic ground shaking would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction and lateral spreading?

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Liquefaction is defined as the transportation of loose water-saturated granular materials (such as sand or silt) from a solid into a liquid state. It is a type of ground failure that can occur during an earthquake. Most of Catalina Island rests on the recent alluvium and alluvium fan deposits from Quaternary time periods. An earthquake might cause buildings resting on alluvium to shake for a longer period of time than if those buildings were on bedrock. However, as long as the water table is low and liquefaction unlikely, alluvium is considered low risk. Other rock formations found within the island include Quaternary nonmarine terrace deposits; tertiary metamorphic rock from the Franciscan formation derived from eugeosynclinal sedimentary and volcanic rocks, consisting of metasandstone with up to 30 percent lawsonite and glaucophane, fine-grained glaucophane schist, quartzite, metaconglomerate, metavolcanic rocks, talc-actinolite schist, and local green or red chert; and tertiary intrusive (hypabyssal) rocks undifferentiated (City of Avalon 2013a).

Seismic problems related to shallow groundwater, such as liquefaction, are not expected because the water table is low (at or near sea level) and chance of liquefaction is small. Only on rare occasions in the past has the water table risen high enough to undermine foundations (City of Avalon 2013a). Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.

iv) Landslides?

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Landslides take place in widely different rock types and are of almost every conceivable size and shape. They occur at elevations ranging from lofty mountain peaks to the sea floor. There are three basic types of

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landslides: (1) fall—limited to free falling of earth material of any size; (2) slides—rock, debris, or soil movement takes place on one or more shear or slip surfaces and the affected mass consists of single to numerous segments bounded by slip surfaces; and (3) flows—the displaced mass is deformed and moves like a viscous fluid. There are two known landslide areas near Avalon. A fall area occurs along the road to Pebbly Beach, where rocks fall onto the road. This condition only occurs during heavy rainstorms. The other area is a slide area in the vicinity of Vieudelou Avenue, Hill Street, Olive Street, and Maiden Lane. This area shows evidence of creep, in which the soil is pulled downhill by gravity through numerous small, discrete movements over time. A retaining wall, or bulkhead, exists along Olive Street to abate soil creep. Other hillside areas are also potentially subject to landsliding (City of Avalon 2013a).

As part of the project, maximum trail grade would not exceed 15 percent, with an average grade of 10 percent or less. Grades greater than 15 percent would require special construction techniques such as steps made of stone, which would only be used for short stretches if no other realignment alternative would be possible for a particular section. Per the County of Los Angeles' Grading Guidelines, minor grading (i.e., less than 2 feet [0.6 meter (m)] in depth) is exempt from the need to obtain a grading permit. Earth disturbance associated with the proposed project would be limited and would not pose a hazard associated with slope stability. Also, the earth disturbance would occur within an area that is currently developed as a trail and has been subject to historic earth disturbance activities. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

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As discussed below in Section 10, Hydrology and Water Quality, the proposed project would comply with the County's requirements for new development and is subject to review through the project permitting process. All trail construction and grading would be completed by crews of approximately 10 people using hand tools such as shovels, picks, pulaskis, spud bars, and lopping shears in order to greatly minimize any environmental impact. If the project met grading thresholds, the project would be required to comply with Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Ordinance (LID) requirements and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requirements and would be subject to review and confirmation of compliance through the project permitting process. To minimize potential impacts, the project would be required to comply with the Los Angeles County Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual and install mitigation to address potential site construction sediment and erosion issues. With the implementation of MM 10-1, the project would have a less than significant impact.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

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Apart from landslides, structural damage as a result of subsidence or settling on individual properties may cause problems. However, these problems, when they develop, are usually extremely localized and do not appear to present a threat to the community as a whole (City of Avalon 2013a). As previously discussed, the potential for liquefaction on the project site is low. The proposed trail improvements would be built to current engineering standards and would not create or exacerbate geologic hazards due to the limited size and type of trail improvements. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

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d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Thresholds 7(b) and (c) above.</u>				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project does not include septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
f) Conflict with the Hillside Management Area Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 22, § 22.56.215) or hillside design standards in the County General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project is not identified within the Los Angeles Hillside Management Area (County of Los Angeles 2015). No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As discussed in Section 3, Air Quality, small gasoline or diesel engine vehicles would be used for construction and maintenance of the trails and restrooms. The vehicles would emit GHGs. GHG emissions would also result from the energy required to deliver the water that would be used for construction and maintenance of the trails and restrooms. The quantity of GHG emissions would be substantially less than thresholds suggested for a significance determination. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>State and regional plans adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions focus primarily on the reduction of vehicle emissions, energy and water conservation, and the generation of renewable energy. The</u>				

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Final Unincorporated Los Angeles County Community Climate Action Plan 2020 (CCAP) is part of the County General Plan and was adopted along with the General Plan on October 6, 2015. The CCAP states that projects that "demonstrate consistency with applicable CCAP actions can be determined to have a less than significant cumulative impact on GHG emissions and climate change." The CCAP includes actions in five categories: green building and energy, land use and transportation, water conservation and wastewater, waste reduction, reuse and recycling, and land conservation and tree planting.

The project would primarily use hand tools for construction, thereby minimizing GHG emissions from construction equipment. The project does not contain elements that would conflict with the CCAP's green building, energy and water conservation, transportation, or urban forestry goals. It is further noted, that many vehicles on Catalina Island are small, electric-powered vehicles which minimizes fossil fuel use and the associated GHG emissions. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, production, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Grading and construction activities would involve limited transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials such as fuel for construction equipment. However, construction activities are short-term and hazardous materials used during construction would be transported, used, stored, and disposed of according to federal, State, and local health and safety requirements. Operation of the proposed project would not involve the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials, nor would it generate hazardous emissions, materials, or wastes. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials or waste into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As indicated above, the proposed project would not involve the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials, nor would it generate hazardous emissions, materials, or wastes during operations. Hazardous materials used during construction would be used in accordance with federal, State, and local regulations. Impacts would be considered less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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within one-quarter mile of sensitive land uses?				
<p><u>During the project's construction phase, there is a limited risk of accidental release of hazardous materials (e.g., gasoline, oil, or other fluids) in operating and maintaining construction equipment. Compliance with the standard State and local construction requirements would reduce the risk of any damage or injury from these potential hazards to a less than significant level.</u></p> <p><u>As stated previously, operation of the proposed project would not involve the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or result in hazardous emissions. Therefore, impacts to sensitive land uses in the vicinity of the project would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) maintains a list of all contaminated sites in the nation that are currently undergoing clean-up activities or have in the past. This list is known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) Database. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) also maintains a list of the contaminated sites in the state for which it is providing oversight and enforcement of clean-up activities. This list is known as the EnviroStor Database. There are currently no active sites listed on the CERCLIS Database or the Envirostor Database on the project site (USEPA 2015, 2016). No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan, or where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>The Catalina Island Airport, also referred to as Airport in the Sky, is privately owned and is located approximately ten miles from Avalon and three miles from Two Harbors. The airport is open to the public and is primarily used for general aviation. Freight aircraft arriving from the mainland also use the airport. However, there are no scheduled passenger flights to or from the island. The proposed project is located within the Airport Influence Area of the Catalina Island Airport. However, due to the nature of the proposed project, no impacts are anticipated. It should be noted that one of the staging areas has been identified at the Airport in the Sky. This staging area is an existing parking area and would not be impacted by the limited use associated with the project. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u></p>				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Refer to Threshold 9(e) above.</u></p>				

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g) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in permanent or temporary impacts to roadway access. Therefore, the proposed project would not interfere with existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plans for federal, State, or local agencies. No mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires, because the project is located:				
i) within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (Zone 4)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The entire Catalina Island is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ, formerly Fire Zone 4 in Los Angeles County). As such, adequate emergency access is critical. Due to the unique island geography, residents and visitors must be well-prepared for emergency response in the event of a fire, as backup resources require more time to cross the channel and reach the island.</u>				
<u>The County of Los Angeles Fire Department is responsible for fire protection on Catalina Island. There are three facilities located in the City of Avalon to support fire service: Avalon Fire Station (City of Avalon Fire Department), Avalon Station No. 55 Consolidated Fire Protection District (CFPD), and Baywatch Avalon (CFPD). In addition, there are two saltwater reservoirs within the city limits that provide water for fire suppression (City of Avalon 2013a).</u>				
<u>Stringent requirements are placed on any development within VHFHSZ areas to ensure that preventative measures are taken to reduce the risk associated with wildland fires. These requirements, pursuant to Title 32 (Fire Code) of the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances include minimum road widths that provide adequate access for firefighting equipment and evacuation of residents, as well as clearance around structures (fuel modification areas) to prevent the rapid spread of fire. No structures are proposed for development as part of the project; however, the County shall inform the Contractor and all construction staff at the pre-grade meeting/pre-construction meeting that the project site and surrounding areas are subject to wildland fires and that every effort must be made to minimize the potential for initiating a construction-related fire, including routinely inspecting construction equipment; using spark arrestors on equipment; and posting no smoking signs, among other items. No long-term fire risks would be associated with operation of the proposed project. Although no significant impacts are anticipated, implementation of MM 9-1 would reduce potential impacts related to wildland fires to a less than significant level.</u>				
ii) within a high fire hazard area with inadequate access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 9(h)(i) above.</u>				
iii) within an area with inadequate water and pressure to meet fire flow standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 9(h)(i) above.</u>				

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iv) within proximity to land uses that have the potential for dangerous fire hazard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 9(h)(i) above.</u>				
i) Does the proposed use constitute a potentially dangerous fire hazard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 9(h)(i) above.</u>				
<u>Mitigation Measure</u>				
<u>MM 9-1</u> Prior to approval of project plans and specifications, the Conservancy shall confirm that a pre-grade/pre-construction conference has been conducted to inform the project Contractor(s) and their staff of the high fire hazard conditions that exist in and around the project site and measures that they must implement to minimize the potential for construction-related fires.				

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Construction of the project would have the potential to contribute sediment, trash, debris, and pollutants into drainages near the existing and proposed trails and ultimately, in the Pacific Ocean. Grading and excavation activities would generate loose soils that may enter local drainages and downstream creeks. In addition, construction equipment and activities could result in potential leaks of oil and grease, vehicle fluids, paint, and other solvents into the ground, which may then be washed down into these drainages. Without the use of appropriate BMPs, this could add to temporary impairments of water quality.</u></p> <p><u>To minimize potential impacts, the project would be required to comply with the Los Angeles County Best Management Practices (BMPs) Manual. The Manual requires specific erosion-control and sediment-control BMPs, non-storm water runoff BMPs, and minimum standards of good housekeeping. It also requires year-round implementation, BMP maintenance and inspection, and notification requirements. The Manual provides options to implement sediment-control BMPs, as well as tracking control, hazardous material and waste management, and other BMPs during construction. These BMPs may include installing sandbag berms and/or silt fences; scheduling construction activities outside the rainy season; conducting equipment washing and repair off site; storing materials away from runoff flows; and implementing a Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) to monitor, clean up, and report any hazardous material discharges that may contaminate storm waters.</u></p>				

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With compliance with the County's Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual, construction debris and other construction-related substances that could be released into area drainages, catch basins, storm drain pipes, and eventually into the Pacific Ocean would be reduced. No long-term adverse change in storm water runoff quality would occur with the project.

The proposed trail improvements would not generate additional pollutants in the runoff or include facilities that would generate wastewater that may affect long-term storm water quality. However, use of the proposed trails may lead to trash and debris from hikers, as such trash receptacles would be provided along the trails to reduce trash and debris. Revegetation of disturbed areas would also increase ground infiltration of storm water and would reduce erosion of slopes and the potential for loose soils to join storm water runoff.

Chapter 12.80 of the Los Angeles County Code contains the County's regulations for storm water and runoff pollution control and prohibits illicit discharges, littering, and other discharge of polluting or damaging substances. Storm water and runoff pollution mitigation measures are required for construction activities. Chapter 20.94.040 of the Los Angeles County Code also states that it is unlawful to place any refuse, rubbish, tin cans, or other matter that may impede, retard, or change the normal direction of the flow of flood, storm, and other waters or that may be carried downstream by such waters to cause damage and detriment of downstream properties. It prohibits material, either solid or liquid, to be placed in a river, stream, wash, arroyo, floodway, floodplain, flood-control channel, reservoir, debris basin, or spreading ground that will deteriorate the quality of water flowing or stored therein. The project is required to comply with these regulations.

Through compliance with existing jurisdictional requirements and mitigation measures to implement construction site BMPs (see MM 10-1), the project would have a less than significant impact.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The proposed project would not result in an increase in the demand for water production because the proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails, new trail connections, and installation of public, waterless restrooms. No improvements are proposed that would interfere with groundwater recharge. No wells would be drilled or operated. The proposed project would not have the potential to directly change the rate or flow of groundwater because it would not interfere with any known aquifers. Therefore, no impacts to groundwater supplies or recharge would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The project would result in minor changes in local drainage patterns due to proposed grading for the construction of trail improvements and new trail connections (i.e., updated trailheads, way-finding, and

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public restrooms). However, these improvements would not create impervious surfaces that may change runoff patterns, volumes, and rates.

Changes in drainage patterns due to the project would be localized and relatively minor since the trails would be at-grade and would have a natural soil surface and the proposed trail improvements would be located at scattered locations. Where impervious surfaces associated with the proposed signage and public restrooms would be created, runoff through these areas is expected to percolate into adjacent pervious surfaces as existing, with no significant increase in runoff volumes or rates at downstream areas.

Thus, changes in drainage patterns would be localized and isolated. The overall drainage patterns would remain the same as under existing conditions. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?



Refer to Threshold 10(c) above.

e) Add water features or create conditions in which standing water can accumulate that could increase habitat for mosquitoes and other vectors that transmit diseases such as the West Nile virus and result in increased pesticide use?



Refer to Threshold 10(c) above.

f) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?



Refer to Threshold 10(c) above.

g) Generate construction or post-construction runoff that would violate applicable stormwater NPDES permits or otherwise significantly affect surface water or groundwater quality?



Refer to Threshold 10(a) above.

h) Conflict with the Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 12, Ch. 12.84)?



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The concept of Low Impact Development (LID) was created to ensure that new development is designed in consideration of overall environmental conditions, including regional water quality. LID is a land-use planning approach that incorporates "green infrastructure" concepts such as zero runoff, rainfall harvesting, groundwater recharge, biofiltration, native landscapes, green streets, and other measures to promote water quality protection in new development. The goal of LID is to protect a community's natural, pre-development water flow in order to minimize ecological impacts from urbanization. Development of the proposed project has the potential to modify the site's drainage pattern and increase runoff, thereby requiring implementation of BMPs to address drainage impacts. Compliance with measures as identified in Threshold 10(a) above, would ensure that the project would not conflict with the County's LID Ordinance. Impacts would be less than significant and no additional mitigation measures would be required.

i) Result in point or nonpoint source pollutant discharges into State Water Resources Control Board-designated Areas of Special Biological Significance?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The Western Santa Catalina Island Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) is relatively small, with four miles of coastline from the north end of Little Harbor to Ben Weston Point. This area is primarily used by islanders and boaters and has areas for camping, picnicking, hiking, and surfing. There are three direct discharges of runoff and five natural streams draining this area. A road runs along part of the coastline of this ASBS and may contribute to storm water runoff; portions of the road are annually paved with oil slurry that may be discharged into the ASBS (CCC 2006). As discussed in Threshold 10(a) above, the proposed project would comply with County regulations for minimizing pollutants in storm water runoff. With implementation of mitigation measure 10-1, impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level.

j) Use onsite wastewater treatment systems in areas with known geological limitations (e.g. high groundwater) or in close proximity to surface water (including, but not limited to, streams, lakes, and drainage course)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The proposed project does not involve the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

k) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Refer to Threshold 10(a) above.

l) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map, or within a floodway or floodplain?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The proposed project does not include the construction of habitable structures or housing units or other structures or improvements within a 100-year flood hazard area or the 500-year floodplain, as mapped on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Additionally, future trail users would not be exposed to flood hazards. Thus, there would be no impact related to flooding and no mitigation measures would be required.

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m) Place structures, which would impede or redirect flood flows, within a 100-year flood hazard area, floodway, or floodplain?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Refer to Threshold 10(l) above.				
n) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The proposed project is not located within an identified dam inundation area. Thus, no safety hazards to persons or structures along the trails would occur in the event of a levee or dam failure. No mitigation measures would be required.				
o) Place structures in areas subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
According to the Local Coastal Program (LCP), the potential for inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow does exist within the project area. However, there has been no record of tsunami damage on the island. The proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms and does not include any habitable structures. The proposed project would comply with the policies and recommended actions set forth in the LCP. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation would be required.				
Mitigation Measures				
MM 10-1 Project construction shall comply with the Los Angeles County Construction Site Best Management Practices (BMPs) Manual to implement relevant and applicable measures to reduce or eliminate construction-related pollutants in the runoff. Measures to be implemented should address the following: scheduling construction activities outside of the rainy season; erosion and sediment control from site construction activities; control of waste and material pollution from equipment and vehicles. The applicant shall submit a report to the Department of Regional Planning demonstrating BMPs implemented during construction activities to address the previously listed areas of concern and provide a weekly log of inspection and maintenance of BMPs to ensure on-going compliance.				

11. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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As stated previously, the proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Once complete, the project would create 26.7 additional miles of publicly accessible trails to the existing 144-mile trail system (an approximately 20 percent increase of the overall trail system). The new trails incorporated into the system would connect public access points, while others would providing missing connectivity between trails and campsites. Furthermore, updated trailheads with improved way-finding and proposed public restrooms would improve access for hikers, the general public, and specifically Fourth District residents to Catalina Island's wildlands and outdoor recreational experiences. The proposed trail project would not involve demolition of existing housing units and would not divide an established neighborhood or community. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

b) Be inconsistent with the applicable County plans for the subject property including, but not limited to, the General Plan, specific plans, local coastal plans, area plans, and community/neighborhood plans?

☐
☐
☒
☐

The project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Open Space/Structured Recreation and Conservation/Primitive Recreation and a zoning designation of Open Space/Conservation, both of which are consistent with the existing uses on the project site. Since the proposed project does not include changes in the existing land use or zoning designations and would not change the character or existing uses of the project site, the project is considered to be consistent with the LCP. The project site is located within the Coastal Zone, and as such, a CDP from the California Coastal Commission would be required prior to project implementation and would ensure that the proposed project does not conflict with Coastal Zoning. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.

c) Be inconsistent with the County zoning ordinance as applicable to the subject property?

☐
☐
☒
☐

Refer to Threshold 11(b) above.

d) Conflict with Hillside Management criteria, Significant Ecological Areas conformance criteria, or other applicable land use criteria?

☐
☐
☒
☐

Refer to the previous discussions provided under Thresholds 4(f) and 7(f).

12. MINERAL RESOURCES

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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residents of the state?				
<u>The project site is not designated by the California Department of Conservation as a Mineral Resource Zone. Additionally, the California Department of Conservation Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources has not identified oil, gas, or geothermal fields on the site (County of Los Angeles 2015). Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in loss of availability of any mineral resource that would be of future value to the region. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>As stated previously, the project site does not contain any locally important mineral resources. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

13. NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the County General Plan or noise ordinance (Los Angeles County Code, Title 12, Chapter 12.08), or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Project construction would be primarily with hand tools and would not use large diesel engine construction equipment, jackhammers, or similar equipment, nor would there be blasting. There are few sensitive receptors near the project site and construction noise would not exceed the 75 decibel (dBA) daytime or 60 dBA nighttime and Sunday construction noise limits of the County noise ordinance (Los Angeles County Code, Title 12, Chapter 12.08).</u>				
<u>Operational noise would not be substantially different than existing ambient noise. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Neither construction nor operation/maintenance of the project would generate substantial vibration or groundborne noise. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

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c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project, including noise from parking areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Operational noise would not be substantially different than existing ambient noise. The permanent increase in ambient noise would be negligible. The project would not create parking areas. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project, including noise from amplified sound systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Project construction would be primarily with hand tools and would not use large diesel engine construction equipment, jackhammers, or similar equipment, nor would there be blasting. Temporary noise increases from construction would not be substantial. The project would not include amplified sound systems. Impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project is located within two miles of the Catalina Airport. However, the project would not increase aircraft noise levels nor would it expose substantial numbers of persons to the existing aircraft noise levels. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 13 (e) above.</u>				

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
<u>The proposed project does not include the construction of new homes or business and does not include the extension of roads or infrastructure. Hence, direct population growth would not occur with implementation of the proposed project. Rather, the proposed project would result in the improvement of existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. The proposed project would not induce substantial population growth, either directly or indirectly. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, especially affordable housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project site is located within an area designated and used for open space and recreation. There are no existing residences on site. The proposed project does not include the demolition or destruction of existing housing and would not require the construction of replacement housing. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>As stated previously, the proposed project does not include the demolition or destruction of existing housing and would not require the construction or replacement of housing. As such, the proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
d) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>As stated previously, direct population growth would not occur with implementation of the proposed project. As such, the proposed project would not cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project create capacity or service level problems, or result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				

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Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Fire protection on Catalina Island is provided by the City of Avalon Fire Department within Avalon city limits, and the County of Los Angeles Fire Department Battalion 14 outside of Avalon city limits. Three facilities provide fire service in the City of Avalon: Avalon Fire Station, Avalon Station No. 55, and Baywatch Avalon (City of Avalon 2013a). Catalina Island also falls under California mutual aid agreements and the Los Angeles County Operational Area Emergency Response Plan, which ensure support from nearby jurisdictions in an emergency (LA County 2015; LA County 1998). The proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Implementation of the proposed project would not create a potential fire hazard or result in an increase in the occurrence of fires. There would be no increase in the demand for fire protection resulting in the need for new or expanded fire protection facilities. Therefore, no significant impacts to fire protection services and/or facilities would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
Sheriff protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Sheriff protection on Catalina Island is provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department. There is one sheriff's station on Catalina Island located at 215 Sumner Avenue in the City of Avalon (City of Avalon 2013b). Catalina Island also falls under California mutual aid agreements and the Los Angeles County Operational Area Emergency Response Plan, which ensure support from nearby jurisdictions in an emergency (LA County 2015; LA County 1998). The proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in an increase in the occurrence of crime, an increase in the demand for police protection, or the need for new or expanded police protection facilities. No significant impacts to police protection services and/or facilities would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Impacts on schools are generally associated with increased population in an area and the need for additional schools to serve that population. As stated previously, the proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. The proposed project would not generate additional population in the area. The proposed project does not necessitate new or expanded school facilities, nor would it increase the demand for school facilities. Therefore, no physical impacts associated with the provision of schools would occur. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>As previously stated, there would be no new residents associated with the proposed project; therefore, implementation of the project would not result in an increased demand for park or recreational facilities. As further discussed in Section 16, Recreation, under Threshold 16(a), the proposed project would not result in impacts to parks or recreational facilities and no mitigation measures are required.</u>				
Libraries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Due to the nature and intent of the proposed project, no impacts on libraries are anticipated. No mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

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Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to any other government or public facilities in the area. No mitigation measures would be required.</u>				

16. RECREATION

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Demand for recreational facilities is primarily generated by permanent residents. The proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms and does not include residential development that would result in either direct or indirect impacts to existing regional parks or other recreational facilities. The proposed project would support the County's overall goal of providing 1 mile of trail per 1,000 residents. The project may result in increased use of the trail system on Catalina Island due to the proposed improvement to the trail and connectivity, but is not likely to result in substantial deterioration as a result of the project. The project would have a less than significant impact.</u>				
b) Does the project include neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of such facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Refer to Threshold 16(a) above.</u>				
c) Would the project interfere with regional open space connectivity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project would result in improvements to the existing 144-mile trail system in addition to the development of 27.41 acres of new trail connections on the island. The proposed trail connections would connect to public access points, while others would provide missing connectivity between trails and campsites. Additionally, updated trailheads, improved way-finding, and additional public restrooms would improve access for hikers, the general public, and specifically Fourth District residents to Catalina Island's wildlands and outdoor recreational areas. As such, the proposed project would not interfere with regional open space connectivity and would have a less than significant impact.</u>				

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17. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to occur over a two-year period. Construction activities would take place beginning late spring 2016 and continue through early summer. Dry conditions and high daytime temperatures would halt construction by July until fall 2016. Construction would resume in early fall 2016 and continue through early summer 2017. Final trail completion would occur by December 2017. All trail construction and grading would be completed by crews of approximately 10 people.</p> <p>Three small staging areas have been identified at Parson's Landing, Airport in the Sky, and Middle Ranch for crew transport vehicles, restroom construction supplies, and tools. Each staging area is an existing parking area and would not be impacted by the limited use associated with this project.</p> <p>As described above, construction trips would be temporary and negligible on the existing roadway system and would not result in increased traffic to the existing traffic load or capacity of the street system. Furthermore, operation of the proposed trail improvements would not substantially increase the number of visitors to the island. Operation of the proposed project would not result in a significant increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</p> <p>The proposed project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. As stated above, construction and operation would not substantially increase the number of trips. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system and the project would have a less than significant impact</p>				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program (CMP), including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the CMP for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The proposed project does not meet the criteria established in the Los Angeles County Congestion Management Program (CMP) for preparing a CMP Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA and/or detailed impact</p>				

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analysis) (Metro 2010). Therefore, the project would be exempt from preparing a CMP TIA and/or a detailed impact analysis. No impacts would occur and mitigation would not be required.

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

☐
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As stated previously, the proposed project is located within the Airport Influence Area of the Catalina Island Airport. However, due to the nature of the proposed project, no impacts are anticipated. One of the proposed staging areas would be located at the Airport in the Sky. This staging area is an existing parking area and would not be impacted by the limited use associated with the project. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a substantial safety risk associated with air traffic patterns. No mitigation measures would be required.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

☐
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The proposed project does not include construction or operation associated with an existing roadway. The project design would not include any sharp curves or dangerous intersections and therefore would not increase hazards due to a design feature. The proposed project would be designed to incorporate all required County and Los Angeles County Fire Department driveway and access standards. Furthermore, the proposed project does not include any incompatible uses associated with roads or automobile travel. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated and no mitigation measures would be required.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

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Construction and operation of the proposed project would not affect streets or otherwise affect emergency access routes. The proposed project would be designed to incorporate all required Los Angeles County Fire Department standards to ensure that its implementation would not result in hazardous design features or inadequate emergency access to the site or areas surrounding the site. Therefore, no impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

☐
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Implementation of the proposed project would not result in the elimination of existing bus or bicycle facilities, nor would it conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs that support alternative transportation. There would be no impact and no mitigation measures would be required.

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18. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of either the Los Angeles or Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Boards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project would not exceed the wastewater treatment requirements of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). As stated previously, the proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms and would therefore not generate any significant quantities of wastewater requiring treatment. Less than significant impacts would occur with development of the proposed project and no mitigation is required.</u>				
b) Create water or wastewater system capacity problems, or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Construction and operation of the proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
c) Create drainage system capacity problems, or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The project would introduce minimal impervious surfaces in the form of sign posts and public restrooms. However, these improvements would be surrounded by open pervious areas that would absorb storm water from these small and/or scattered impervious surfaces. No measurable increase in storm water flows would occur with the project, and no expansion of existing storm drain facilities is needed to serve the project. Therefore, the project would have less than significant impacts on storm drain facilities and no mitigation measures would be required.</u>				
d) Have sufficient reliable water supplies available to serve the project demands from existing entitlements and resources, considering existing and projected water demands from other land uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Construction and operation of the proposed project would not affect water supplies, as the project consists of improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Construction activity would require minimal amounts of water, which would be accommodated from existing water supplies and entitlements. Implementation of the project would not result in the need to expand existing water facilities or construct new water facilities. Less than significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

e) Create energy utility (electricity, natural gas, propane) system capacity problems, or result in the construction of new energy facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The proposed project involves improvements to existing trails; new trail connections; and installation of public restrooms. Neither the trails nor the restrooms would require connections to the existing utility system; therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in the construction of new or expansion of existing facilities. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Solid waste generated by the proposed project would be disposed of at the Pebbly Beach Landfill in the City of Avalon. As of March 2013, the maximum daily capacity of the landfill was 49 tons per day with a remaining permitted capacity of 75,924 cubic yards (CalRecycle 2016). The anticipated closure date of the landfill is 2033. The increase in solid waste disposal resulting from implementation of the project would be nominal and could be accommodated by the permitted capacity of the Catalina Island landfill system. A less than significant impact related to landfill capacity would occur from implementation of the proposed project and no mitigation is required.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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In order to comply with the State of California Waste Management Act (Assembly Bill [AB] 939), Catalina Island has implemented a recycling program. The program processes solid waste at a materials recovery facility (MRF) to ensure that recyclable items are removed from solid waste flows, which are sent to the landfill system. The proposed project would comply with all federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures would be required.

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19. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As described in the Initial Study, implementation of the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment; substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species; cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels; threaten to eliminate a plant or animal; or eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory with the incorporation of the identified mitigation measures.</u>				
b) Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As described in the Initial Study, construction and operation of the proposed project does not have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantages of long-term environmental goals.</u>				
c) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>The proposed project would not result in significant impacts that cannot be mitigated to a level that is less than significant. The analysis in the Initial Study has determined that the project would not have any individually limited but cumulatively considerable impacts. In addition, due to the small scale and location of the project, the proposed project is not anticipated to result in cumulative impacts.</u>				
d) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>As described in the Initial Study, construction and operation of the proposed project would not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The impacts that the project could have on human beings have been reduced to below a level of significance by mitigation measures included in the project.</u>				

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TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES ("AB 52")

Compliance Checklist

(Initial Study Attachment)

Note: Prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report for a project, this checklist must be completed and attached to the Initial Study.

Procedural Compliance

1. Has a California Native American Tribe (s) requested formal notification of proposed projects in the geographic area that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribe?

☐ Yes Tribe(s) to notify: _____

☒ No (End of process)

2. Notification letter (s) informing the California Native American Tribe (s) of the proposed project was mailed on _____, which was within 14 days when project application was determined complete or the County decided to undertake a project.

3. Did the County receive a written request for consultation from the California Native American Tribe(s) within 30 days of when formal notification was provided?

☐ Yes Date: _____

☐ No (End of process)

4. Consultation process with the California Native American Tribe(s) consisted of the following:

5. Consultation process concluded on _____ by either of the following:

☐ The parties concluded that no mitigation measures are necessary

☐ The parties agreed to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect on a tribal cultural resource (see attached mitigation measures)

☐ The County acted in good faith and after reasonable effort, concluded that mutual agreement cannot be reached.



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Ken Alex
Director

August 9, 2016

Adrine Arakelian
Los Angeles County
320 W. Temple St, Rm 1348
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Catalina Island Trails Project
SCH#: 2016071021

Dear Adrine Arakelian:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on August 8, 2016, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2016071021
Project Title Catalina Island Trails Project
Lead Agency Los Angeles County

Type MND Mitigated Negative Declaration
Description The proposed Catalina Island Trails project is a two year trails construction that would reconstruct 26.7 miles of social and/or game trails and old roadbeds (in segments ranging from approximately 0.4 to 4.3 miles in length) to become publicly accessible trails that would link to the existing 144-mile trail system. New trails would be incorporated into the existing system, many connecting to public access points, and others providing missing connectivity.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Adrine Arakelian
Agency Los Angeles County
Phone (213) 974-6462
email
Address 320 W. Temple St, Rm 1348
City Los Angeles
Fax
State CA **Zip** 90012

Project Location

County Los Angeles
City Santa Clarita
Region
Lat / Long 33° 24' 01.4" N / 118° 24' 55.6" W
Cross Streets
Parcel No. 36 parcels
Township 9S **Range** 14W **Section** 18 **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways
Airports Airport in the Sky
Railways
Waterways
Schools
Land Use OS/C/Open space structured recreation; conservation primitive recreation

Project Issues Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Coastal Zone; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Vegetation; Water Quality; Wildlife

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; California Coastal Commission; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Caltrans, District 7; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 07/08/2016 **Start of Review** 07/08/2016 **End of Review** 08/08/2016

Photographs & Trail Information Provided by Applicant

Definitions of Catalina's Roads and Trails:

Primary Paved Road: The only paved road on the Catalina Island Conservancy's property stretches 9 miles between the city of Avalon and the Airport in the Sky. This is a minimally maintained paved road without center lines, shoulders, traffic lights or stop signs and is patched by hand every few months. This road facilitates the majority of the interior road traffic daily.



Photos: Airport Road

Secondary Road: An already existing dirt road, approximately 16-18 feet in width and maintained with the use of a grader approximately once monthly. These publicly accessible 2-wheel-drive dirt roads are used daily by Conservancy staff, local residents, utility stakeholders and tour companies for getting between the primary island hubs of Avalon, Middle Ranch, the Airport in the Sky, the village of Two Harbors, and several youth camps. Speed limit is 25 mph (maximum) on these roads and vehicle traffic varies depending on the season of year. An average may approach 50-150 vehicles per day driving in the interior. A total of 575-600 interior vehicle use permits are issued by the Conservancy annually to (a) commercial users (approx. 125) such as tour companies, Southern California Edison, US Postal Service, Catalina Island Resort Services, and includes the Conservancy's vehicle fleet, while residential vehicle permits (~450) are available to island residents' for their personal vehicles.



Secondary Road Photos: Left- Middle Ranch Road; right: Isthmus Road

Tertiary Road: An already existing dirt road, approximately 12 feet in width (wide enough for a single vehicle), that is closed to the general public for driving, but is driven by Catalina Island Conservancy rangers, biologists, Jeep Eco Tours, and maintenance staff intermittently throughout the year for work purposes. Los Angeles County Fire Department response vehicles may access these roads in the event of an emergency and Southern California Edison employees may drive various tertiary roads to access electrical and water infrastructure such as power poles and water valves for maintenance and repair. Overall traffic volume is low (approximately 10 vehicles or less per week). Existing tertiary dirt roads are maintained approximately one time per year using a grader.



Tertiary Road Photos: Top left- Divide Road/Trans Catalina Trail; top right- Silver Peak Road/Trail; bottom: Cottonwood Road/Trail.

Trans-Catalina Trail: Opened in 2009, the Trans-Catalina Trail stretches 37.2 miles from the Renton Mine Trailhead on the East End to Starlight Beach on the West End. It winds up hills and down valleys offering spectacular views across the Conservancy's 43,000-acre "Interior." The trail utilizes a variety of secondary dirt roads, tertiary dirt roads, and single-track hiking trails.



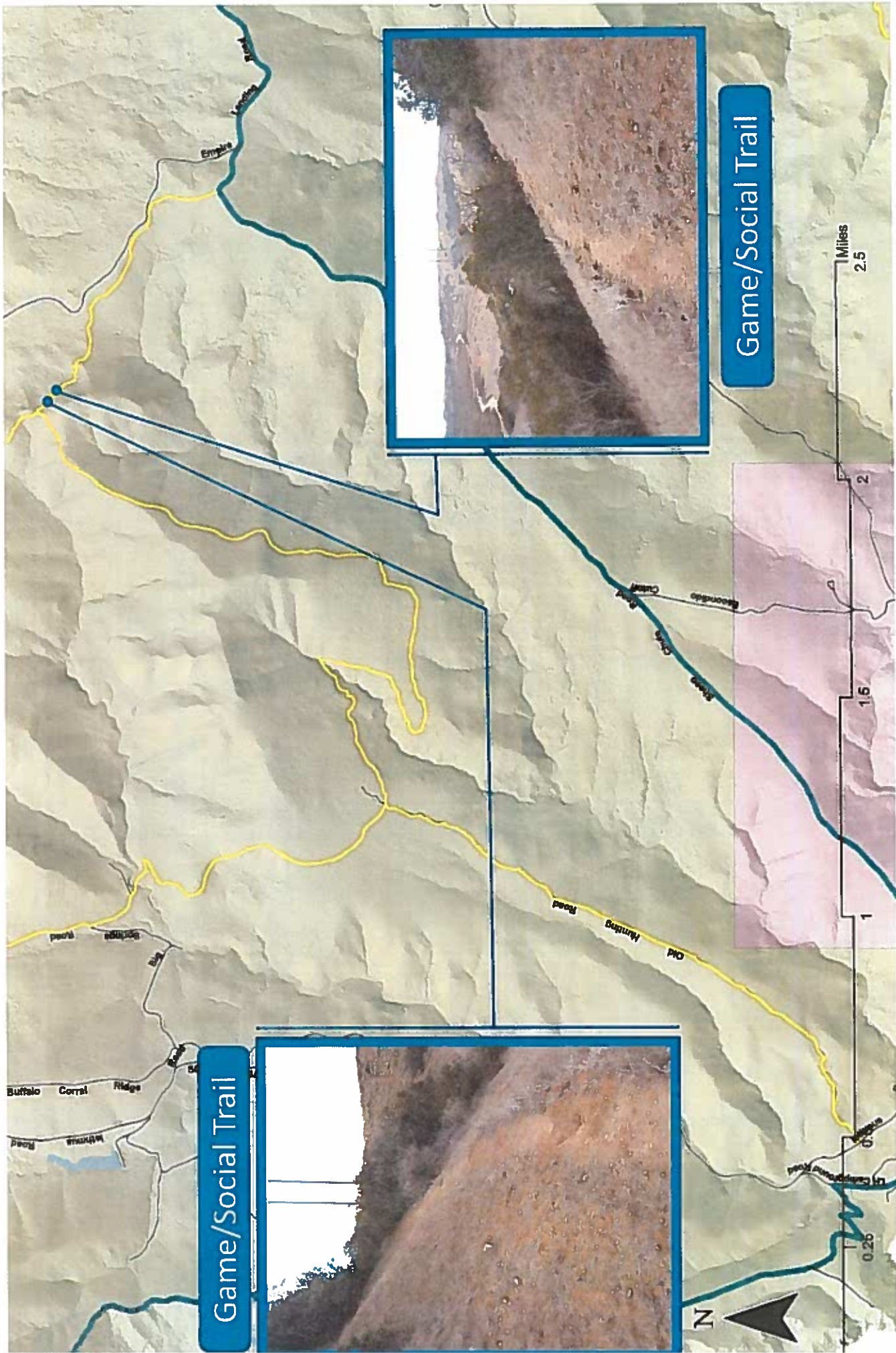
Trans-Cat Trail photos: top left-Haypress to KBRT; top right- Lower Jensen; bottom left- Middle Canyon Road to KBRT; bottom right- Emerald to Parsons.

Game/Social Trail: Game trails (created by bison, mule deer and formerly goats) and single-track social hiking trails used by people are often one in the same. Bison have been utilizing the same trails as they walk single-file from one location to another on Catalina for decades. Their well-worn paths are approximately 18 inches in width and the dirt has been pulverized and compacted into an ideal trail for humans to use. As part of the Catalina Trails Project, these well-established game trails will be slightly widened in areas to be a uniform 2 feet wide and will be improved by contouring the tread to have a gentle outsloping for drainage, by adding

rock steps where needed to prevent erosion, and adding wayfinding signage.



Game/Social trail photos: left- near KBRT, right- near Lower Jensen Reservoir.



Game/Social Trail

Game/Social Trail

Tertiary Dirt Road



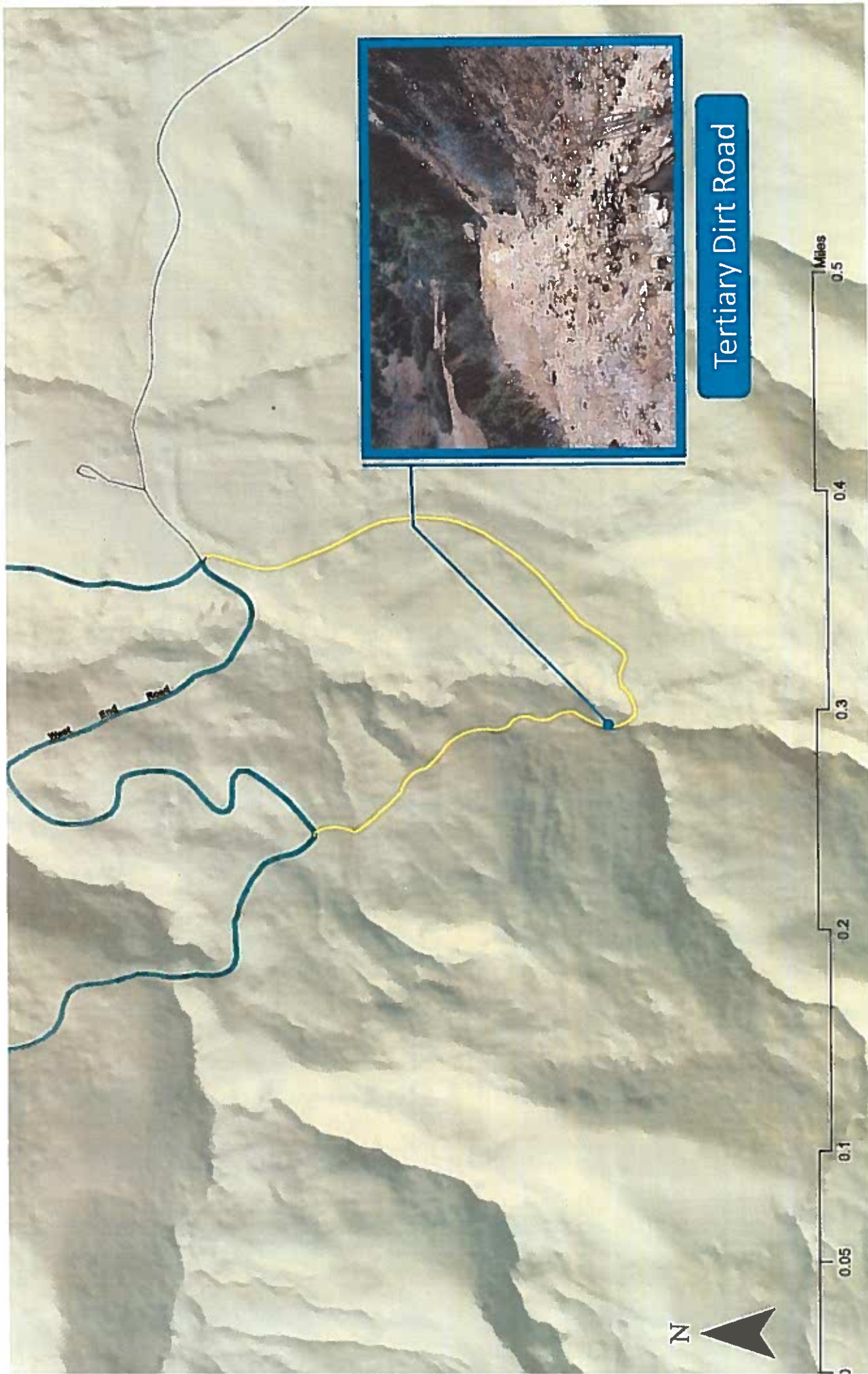
Game/Social Trail



Game/Social Trail



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles



Tertiary Dirt Road

Examples of Signage



Sheet 4.0

Trail Photographs of Tertiary Dirt Roads and Social/Game Trails to be Altered:



Trail Photographs of Tertiary Dirt Roads and Social/Game Trails to be Altered:



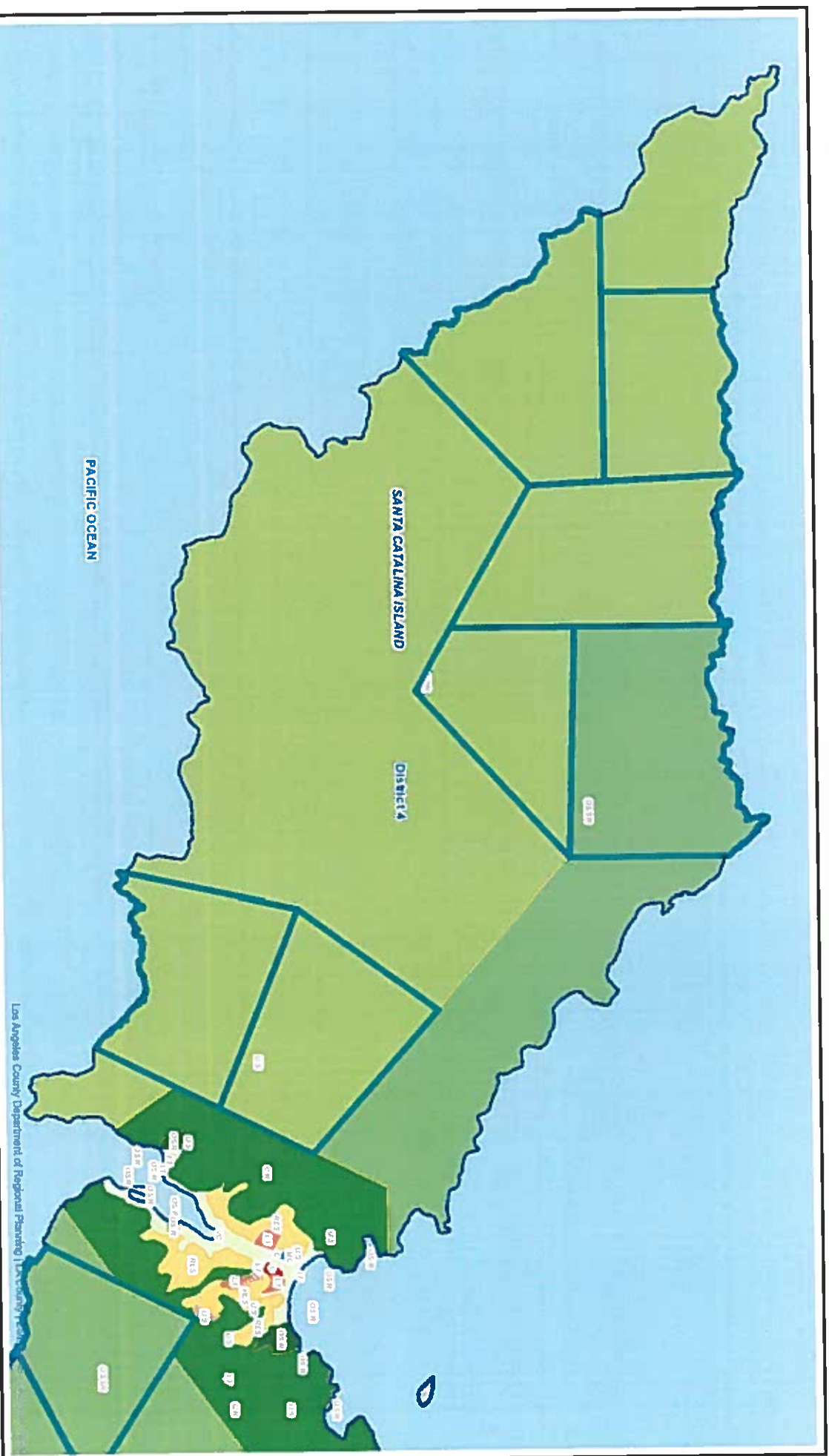


3.2



3.1

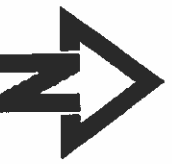




**R2015-01333-(4) / Project Parcels
Catalina LCP Land Use Plan**

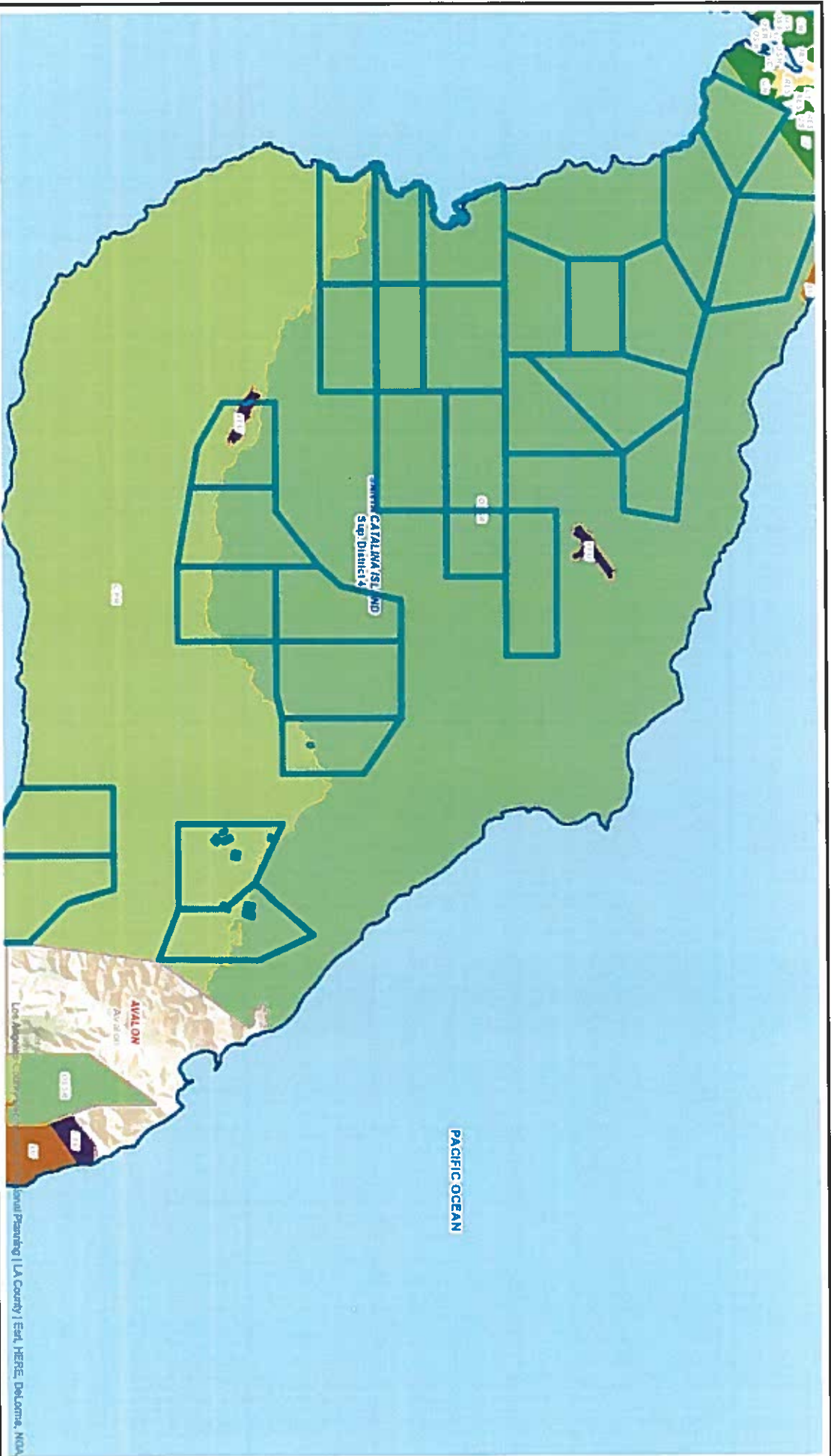
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A vertical scale bar labeled "Miles" with markings at 0, 1, and 2.





R2015-01333-(4) / Project Parcels

Catalina LCP Land Use Plan

Printed: Jul 06, 2016

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